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Prince Hassan meets Arab-Americans

WASHINGTON (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday met with the president and members of the Arab-American Chamber of Commerce board as well as with Jordanian and Arab businessmen in the U.S. Prince Hassan reviewed financial and economic pressures on Jordan and called for more participation in developmental projects in the Middle East in light of the recent developments. "It is time that Arabs abroad play an important role in their nation's development," Prince Hassan said. Pointing out that international expenditure in the region must be directed towards development of human resources and not towards infrastructure. Later, the Prince delivered a lecture at the Washington Studies Institute, one of the most distinguished and specialised institutes in the domain of political affairs and international relations in the world. The Prince reaffirmed Jordan's support for the Palestinian people and pointed to the country's constant efforts to make it possible for the Palestinian people secure their national and legitimate rights on their national soil.

UAE urges Iran to resolve dispute

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) called Monday on Iran to come to a peaceful solution of their territorial dispute over three islands in the Gulf. The UAE wish to negotiate directly with Iran over sovereignty of the islands near the Straits of Hormuz which it says have been occupied by Iran since 1971. UAE Foreign Minister Rashid Abdullah Al Nuaimi told the United Nations. The foreign minister also told the U.N. General Assembly that the international community must force Iraq to fulfill U.N. resolutions, particularly the resolution ordering Baghdad to recognise the new frontier separating Iraq and Kuwait. "The suffering and the hardships endured by the Iraqi people is the responsibility of the Iraqi regime because of its refusal to implement fully all relevant Security Council resolutions," he said. "At the same time, we would like to emphasise that it is imperative to maintain the unity and the territorial integrity of Iraq," he said. Mr. Nuaimi praised the Israel-PLO accord as encouraging and said he hoped it would lead to "a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, including the Holy City of Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan."

Yeltsin routs foes in armed showdown

Tank-led assault ends revolt; Rutskoi, Khasbulatov arrested

Combined agency dispatches

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin's army tanks bludgeoned hardline communist rebels into submission on Monday in a 10-hour assault on their building that turned central Moscow into a killing zone.

Several hundred defenders of the deposed Russian parliament came out of the blazing White House with their hands up — in an apparent turning point that spelled victory for loyalist forces.

The unarmed men and women walked out of the building, down steps, moving between lines of soldiers and disappeared behind rows of buses.

Some reports said hundreds died in a tank-led, dawn thrust by special forces commandos storming ahead in scenes surpassing Moscow street battles of the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution.

The leaders of the revolt against Mr. Yeltsin were arrested.

Hundreds of deputies in the dissolved parliament and their supporters also surrendered.

Parliamentary Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov, former Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi and their top aides were arrested and brought to Moscow's Lefortovo prison, a source close to Mr. Yeltsin said.

Russian militia loyal to President Boris Yeltsin guard after an assault Monday and (photo on right) former defenders of the Russian parliament who surrendered Parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov (left) and former Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi are led from the parliament building after their surrender (AFP)

The three ministers appointed by the rebel parliament to head defence, security and armed forces in a parallel government were also put under arrest, as was the head of the parliament's armed guards, Interfax quoted the Russian security ministry as saying.

The surrender of the rebel deputies amid continuing gunfire and clashes between anti-Yeltsin protesters and Interior Ministry forces followed 13 days of escalating confrontation.

The conflict was sparked when Mr. Yeltsin, blocked for months from carrying out his reform programme by conservatives in the Soviet-era parliament, announced on Sept. 21 that he was dissolving the legislature and calling new legislative elections.

It was the worst violence in decades in the Russian capital and the centre of emergency medical services said 25 people were confirmed dead and 261 were hospitalised with serious injuries, Interfax reported.

Thousands of Muscovites looked on in bright autumn sunshine as fighting raged in the heart of this city of nine million people.

Witnesses saw dozens of bodies in and around the building, the centre of white stone facade now charred and scarred with a huge hole, flames licking from windows.

Smoke billowed from the riverside building and fires blazed on several floors of the wrecked interior.

A long line of people, some in civilian clothes, some in military fatigues, filed out of the parliament between two columns of soldiers. Many had their hands behind their heads in apparent surrender.

But a crackle of automatic fire still echoed around Moscow City centre as diehards on the upper floors fought on.

Tank guns, grenades and automatic weapons turned Moscow's city centre into a war zone.

Civilians, seemingly oblivious of the danger, saw Mr. Yeltsin's troops move to crush the communist-led revolt that flared on Sunday as a bid to restore the collapsed Soviet Union.

His commanders sent elite troops racing into the rebel stronghold under cover of tank fire.

It was not clear how many people were in the building when the assault started or how many were killed in fighting.

Lieutenant-General Dmitry Volkogonov, a top presidential military aide, told reporters 500 people had been killed.

But he later told ITAR-TASS the estimate had come from deserters and was "clearly exaggerated."

He said government forces were taking every possible measure to keep casualties to a minimum.

Mr. Yeltsin, now ruling under emergency decrees since he abolished parliament on Sept. 21 and ordered December elections, imposed an overnight curfew in the capital.

Mr. Yeltsin banned a range of opposition groups following the revolt, Interfax news agency said.

The agency said Justice Minister Yuri Kalmykov signed an order suspending the activity of a series of parties including the National Salvation Front — a powerful communist-nationalist group — and the main Russian Communist Party.

Others included Pamyat, a Russian nationalist party with a strong anti-Semitic platform,

(Continued on page 10)

Iraq-U.N. talks said going well

BAGHDAD (AFP) — Iraq and the United Nations have had "constructive" talks on the long-term monitoring of Baghdad's post-war weapons arsenal, a U.N. spokesman said Monday. U.N. disarmament chief Rolf Ekeus and Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz had nine hours of discussions since Saturday and were to meet again on Monday evening. The discussions were "good and constructive" and "I expect good results," said the spokesman who declined to be identified. Iraq hopes that the talks will lead to the lifting of a three-year embargo imposed by the United Nations after Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

Rebel violence kills 40 in Turkey

DIYARBAKIR, Turkey (R) — Thirty-one Kurdish civilians were killed Monday in two separate minibus attacks blamed on Kurdish rebels in southeast Turkey, officials said. Five soldiers and four guerrillas were reported killed in separate incidents in the mainly Kurdish region. A minibus travelling in the morning between Kayalar and Kayalipinar villages in Mardin province hit a landmine. Twenty-six people, including nine children and five women, were killed, a statement from the emergency rule governor's office in Diyarbakir said. Three people were wounded.

Robert Michel to retire — report

PEORIA, Illinois (AFP) — House of Representatives minority leader Robert Michel will not seek reelection to Congress next year, opening a key Republican leadership post, a newspaper reported Monday. Mr. Michel's chief of staff declined to confirm the report in the Peoria Journal Star. First elected to Congress in 1956, Mr. Michel has served as Republican leader in the house since 1980. He faced a challenge for the party's leadership in the house from Newt Gingrich, of Georgia. "That certainly was a factor in his being a bit frustrated, but the overwhelming factor is just that he has been in public life so long he just decided it was time to play some golf and enjoy things more," a longtime associate of Mr. Michel said.

Arguments begin in bombing case

NEW YORK (R) — Opening arguments began Monday in the trial of four men accused of bombing the World Trade Centre, in a trial that is expected to last three to four months. U.S. District Judge Kevin Duffy took his place at the bench exactly at the scheduled 10 a.m. EDT (1400 GMT) starting time. Mr. Duffy is known for his no-nonsense attitude that keeps the proceedings moving along on time. The courtroom, the largest in the historic U.S. court house in Lower Manhattan with 140 seats, was packed with reporters and relatives of the defendants.

U.S. to cut $437m from loan guarantee

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The United States plans to deduct $437 million from loan guarantees to Israel as a penalty for establishing Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, congressional sources said Monday. The sources said the State Department notified Israel that the loan guarantees would be reduced from $2 billion to a maximum of $1.563 billion. Congress provided for up to $10 billion in loan guarantees to Israel over five years, but included a penalty provision to discourage new settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The penalties are to be levied for settlement building in excess of an agreement between the two governments. The loan guarantees were authorised to help Israel settle immigrants from the former Soviet Union.

Gammo presents upbeat prediction for economy after Washington talks

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A series of meetings senior Jordanian officials held in the second half of last month with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Clinton administration and international donors have given an added dimension to Jordan's efforts to improve its economy, Finance Minister Sami Gammo said Monday.

Mr. Gammo, who returned home Sunday after attending most of the meetings, said the discussions covered most aspects of the Kingdom's economy, which is burdened with $6.5 billion in foreign debt.

The meetings with the World Bank and IMF involved Jordan's economic restructuring programme and its efforts to address its foreign debt, he said.

The finance minister specifically mentioned remarks made by U.S. President Bill Clinton after a meeting with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan at the White House on Friday which was also attended by Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

In the first direct comments by an American president on Jordan's foreign debts, Mr. Clinton referred to the burden of the Kingdom and said it needs to be reduced.

"There needs to be some debt relief for Jordan, and the United States will support that. And there are a whole lot of other things that we need to be doing on that," the president said.

Mr. Gammo declined comment when asked how Jordan interpreted this remark. "I think the statement is clear and speaks for itself," he said.

Diplomatic sources have said that Jordan hopes to secure a write off of its $380 million military debts to Washington. The Kingdom also owes $620 million to the U.S. in non-military debts, which cannot be written off under American laws.

An American move to write-off partial debts of Jordan could strengthen the Kingdom's hand in seeking debt relief from Europe, the sources say.

Mr. Gammo said an IMF/World Bank team was expected to visit Jordan soon for a periodic review of the Kingdom's performance in implementing the economic restructuring programme.

One of the measures to be adopted by Jordan is the introduction of a sales tax, which has delayed from early this year until the end of the year.

The finance minister said his talks with administration officials included a follow-up meeting on a visit an American team paid to Jordan last month for a review of the Kingdom's enforcement of the international sanctions against Iraq and the negative consequences of the sanctions on Jordan's economy.

"We are still waiting for the report of the delegation, but we could see a positive approach to Jordan" by Washington in this respect, he said.

The U.S. report is expected to be translated into certain measures that the U.N. Security Council could implement to help Jordan alleviate the repercussions of the sanctions on its economy. These are believed to include easier guidelines for Aqaba-bound shipping subject to international inspection and speeded up clearance for Jordanian requests for exports to Iraq.

At the donors' conference,

(Continued on page 5)

Toll in hundreds in Mogadishu battles

Combined agency dispatches

MOGADISHU — The United States ordered more soldiers to Somalia Monday after fierce fighting in Mogadishu left at least 13 U.N. troops dead and dozens injured, with hundreds of Somali casualties.

Forces loyal to fugitive Mogadishu warlord Mohammad Farah Aideed held a U.S. pilot captive as General Aideed's Somali National Alliance (SNA) said children and women were among hundreds of dead and wounded from Sunday's clashes.

U.N. military spokesman Major David Stockwell said at least 12 U.S. soldiers and one Malaysian were killed in an operation when U.N. forces captured 24 Aideed aides. A Pentagon source said dozens of U.S. troops were wounded.

Six Malaysian and two Pakistani soldiers were wounded, Maj. Stockwell said. The Malaysian government had announced one dead and nine badly wounded.

Some 400 injured Somalis were taken in by two hospitals in Gen. Aideed's southern Mogadishu stronghold, while about 100 more went for treatment to the north of town, controlled by his rival Mohammad Ali Mahdi, an international committee of the Red Cross official said in Nairobi.

"We have no idea of the numbers of dead because of the sheer number of casualties," ICRC spokesman Patrick Fuller said. "It looks like corpses were just left on the streets or buried without being taken to hospital."

A Somali cameraman showed a video-cassette of the captured U.S. major, wearing a T-shirt and his dog-tag. The SNA declared that he had a broken leg which required treatment before he could be seen.

Two helicopters of the Quick Reaction Force were shot down in the operation mounted by troops of the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM II).

Maj. Stockwell said the soldiers captured 24 of Gen. Aideed's militia leaders in what he considered was an operation that had achieved its objectives. Three of the detainees later died of their wounds.

The aim had not been to capture Gen. Aideed, wanted since June for killings of U.N. soldiers, Maj. Stockwell said.

U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali said that the killing of U.S. soldiers in Somalia would not prevent the United Nations from carrying out its mandate there.

Dr. Ghali added that "the humanitarian and political objectives of that mandate will continue to be pursued vigorously and, where conditions permit, the pace of their implementation will be accelerated.

The U.S. Defence Department said 200 more soldiers would be sent to Somalia. They were expected to be backed by at least four armoured transport vehicles.

Pentagon officials could not confirm a report that seven U.S. Army Rangers were taken prisoners.

"We think it's a small number," a senior official said. "We think very few have been captured, but we can't be sure they're not still out there and just haven't reported back."

Meanwhile Jubilant Somali crowds displayed the corpses of two U.S. soldiers.

Somalis strapped the corpse of one white American soldier to a barrow and wheeled it about the streets, foreign witnesses said. They saw a second charred body which Somalis said had been torched by crowds and then put on display.

Crowds of looters picked over the burnt-out wreckage of two Black Hawk helicopters and of at least seven vehicles, including four U.N. armoured personnel carriers (APCS), witnesses said.

Clashes erupted just before dusk on Sunday when troops of the U.N. peacekeeping force made another attempt to capture some of Gen. Aideed's aides.

Two U.S. black Hawk helicopters were shot down by ground fire, a U.N. statement said. About 70 U.S. Army Rangers sent to pick up wounded crewmen then came under fire from guerrillas.

A rescue force of two U.S. infantry companies and a Ranger platoon 24 Malaysian APCS, four Pakistani tanks and two APCS rushed to the

(Continued on page 3)

Scene where a Palestinian suicide bomber smashed into the side of an Israeli bus outside a military base in the occupied West Bank Monday (AFP photo)

Palestinian kills self, hurts 30 in suicide bomb attack

RAMALLAH, Occupied West Bank (Agencies) — A Palestinian blew himself up in a suicide car bomb attack on an Israeli bus, wounding 30 passengers, near military headquarters in the occupied West Bank on Monday, army and hospital officials said.

A caller to an international news agency said the Islamic Resistance Movement's (Hamas) Izzeddin Al Qassam brigades carried out the attack in response to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's crackdown on the organisation.

The attack was the third suicide bombing since Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) reached an agreement on self-rule in the occupied territories in August. Hamas opposes the peace deal.

With Palestinian autonomy due to start in Jericho and the Gaza Strip on Oct. 13, Israeli Chief of Staff Ehud Barak warned there would be more bombings.

"It's a bid by Muslim extremists... to sabotage the peace agreement. We should expect further attacks," he said.

Four passengers were in a serious condition after the explosion in front of an army administrative headquarters on the edge of the Jewish settlement of Bet El, a hospital spokesman said.

The others were either lightly hurt or suffered shock, a settler and the driver of the badly-damaged bus were the civilian casualties.

Military sources said the suicide driver was a wanted member of Hamas, but gave no name.

The anonymous telephone caller to the international news agency said Sliman Abu Mjahjid from the West Bank village of Qibia drove the car.

"It's a present for Rabin, for his autonomy agreement and for the anniversary of the Al Aqsa massacre. Many more presents are waiting for him," the caller warned.

Eighteen Palestinians died and 150 were wounded on Oct. 8, 1990, when police opened fire on demonstrators at the East Jerusalem mosque.

In Amman, Islamic Jihad also claimed responsibility saying that another Palestinian carried out the bombing which destroyed all but the engine and steering wheel of the suicide car.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal blamed extremists sworn to destroy the autonomy accord.

"Hamas, the Islamic Jihad and other Palestinian groups

(Continued on page 10)

PLO leader assails Israel

PALESTINIAN LEADER Yasser Arafat accused Israel Monday of hunting down members of his mainstream Fateh group in the occupied territories as well as Hamas hardliners opposed to the PLO-Israeli peace accord.

He told a news conference in Algiers that the Israeli army action violated the deal. He had protested to the Israelis, to the sponsors of the Middle East peace talks, the United States and Russia, and to the European Community and the U.N. Security Council. "The operation is not limited to Gaza but extends to the West Bank and does not only aim at hunting for Hamas (members) but also those of Fateh."

"We do not agree on the interpretation (under which) they hunted the Hamas group. I am responsible for all the Palestinian people. When we signed the accord we did so in the name of all the Palestinian people."

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Egyptians vote for Mubarak's new term

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptians voted on Monday in a referendum that will give Hosni Mubarak a third six-year term as president, preserving pro-Western, semi-democratic government in the heartland of the Arab World.

With no alternative candidate to Mr. Mubarak, the main interest in the referendum was how many people bothered to vote, and whether the president would use his new term to speed up economic reform and allow more democracy.

Police across Egypt, where 60 million people live crammed in the narrow Nile Valley and its Delta, were on alert after 18 months of gun and bomb attacks by Muslim militants fighting to overthrow the government. But there were no reports of trouble.

The Egyptian constitution lays down that parliament chooses a single candidate for president, who is then put to the people. Voters were given a paper with a photograph of Mr. Mubarak and a choice of "Yes" or "No."

The most frequent comment from Egyptians, whether supporters or opponents of Mr. Mubarak, was: "There is no alternative."

A civil servant helping to supervise the vote at a shabby school in north Cairo said: "We have a proverb — the one you know is better than the one you don't know."

Political parties have been allowed in Egypt since 1977 but the president wields enormous power as head of the government, commander of the armed forces, and head of the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) with its branches in every town and village.

Mr. Mubarak, a former air force officer whose guiding principle is caution and whose greatest fear is chaos, has never even appointed a vice president. The one man who did build up an independent power base, former Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala, was dismissed in 1989.

Turnout figures collected from polling stations by Reuter correspondents and Egyptian reporters in late morning ranged from 1.9 per cent in the Suez Canal town of Ismailia to 18.7 per cent in the wealthy Cairo suburb of Helioplis where Mr. Mubarak lives and works.

In the southern town of Aswan, the figure was two per cent and in a poor district of central Cairo, 6.4 per cent.

The turnout in Cairo certainly appeared heavier than in many past parliamentary and local government elections. In local elections last November, less than five per cent of voters in some parts of the capital bothered to go to the polls.

The secretary-general of the NDP in Cairo, Mamdouh Beltagi, told Reuters: "Cairo is voting as never before in the contemporary history of this country."

Minibuses and open-topped trucks packed with young NDP supporters cheering and waving "Yes to Mubarak" banners raced between polling stations to whip up excitement and pose for television cameras.

Mr. Mubarak won 98.46 per cent of the vote in 1981, when he succeeded the assassinated Anwar Sadat, and 97.12 per cent at his reelection in 1987. The newspaper Akhbar Al Yom predicted he would win a more modest 93.7 per cent this time.

The result was expected to be announced late on Monday or on Tuesday.

In the 12 years since he succeeded Mr. Sadat, Mr. Mubarak has rebuilt Egypt's infrastructure of roads, airports, telephones and sewers and begun to release the economy from decades of socialist central planning. He has allowed greater freedom to opposition parties and the press.

But he has refused to allow anything but the most gradual change, determined to avoid the upheavals that have beset Eastern Europe since the collapse of communism.

In 1987, Mr. Mubarak steered Egypt back into the fold of the Arab League, which ejected Cairo after Mr. Sadat's separate peace with Israel in 1979.

The 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war and the Gulf war of 1991 both presented opportunities, skillfully seized by the president, to establish Egypt's political influence in an increasingly divided Arab World.

At home Mr. Mubarak's record has been more patchy.

There has been progress on the economic front, but a lot remains to be done — or undone — as the country is suffering from the continued legacy of former President Gamal Abdul Nasser's sweeping nationalisation policies.

More than 65 per cent of Egyptian industry is still state-owned, and the public sector accounts for four-fifths of the country's external trade.

Unemployment is at 20 per cent and rising.

Libyan paper urges revolutionary body reopen

CAIRO (R) — A Libyan newspaper said Sunday the organisation that once spread Tripoli's message of world revolution should reopen because it was needed more than ever.

The General People's Congress (parliament) ordered the closure of the international Mathaba (meeting place) in June 1992, apparently to save money and to distance Libya from revolutionary movements abroad. It was not immediately clear when it did in fact close.

The newspaper Al Shams said in an editorial it suspected that closing the Mathaba, the Libyan equivalent of the former Marxist world's Comintern, was part of a plot by "pragmatists" trying to play down Libya's revolutionary past.

"To close it is an act which has no rationale whatsoever unless we made clear our suspicions that the whole issue is weakness by the pragmatic wing," said the newspaper, quoted by the official Libyan news agency JANA.

"What it did was all good, its creed was the triumph of the masses and it opposed terrorism and dictatorship," it added.

In Libya's revolutionary heyday, the group gathered hardline groups from around the world to hear Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi's message of the third way and defiance of the West.

Among its known guests were dissidents from many African states, leftists and anarchists from Western Europe and members of Louis Farrakhan's black segregationist "Nation of Islam" group from the United States.

Al Shams has been campaigning against any concessions by Libya to the United States, France and Britain — the three states pressing for tougher U.N. sanctions against Tripoli.

They also want proof that Libya has stopped supporting guerrilla groups such as the Irish Republican Army (IRA).

Al Shams said: "This call (for reviving the Mathaba) is for an awareness of the treachery that has ripped the greatest medal of courage and honour from the chests of Libyan men and women."

"The world needs the international Mathaba more than at any time past. The reason for its existence still stands and its closure is an act that cannot be justified," it added.

Indonesia will not recognise Israel without Arab decision

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Muslim state of Indonesia will continue to resist Israeli pressure on it to extend recognition to the Jewish state until a collective Arab recognition takes place, Ambassador Mohammad Hassan Adamy said Sunday.

"Indonesia will not recognise Israel before Arabs do," the Indonesian ambassador said. "We will not take a step (towards recognition) before the others," he added in an interview with the Jordan Times.

Mr. Adamy also rejected the possibility of Indonesia taking its cue from unilateral actions by some Arab countries saying that his country will wait for a decision by all the Arabs.

"We came under pressure to establish ties with Israel after the (Camp David) peace with Egypt," he said. "But Jakarta has made it clear that relations (with the Jewish state) have to wait for Arab consensus."

"We are adopting a wait and see position," he said, adding that Indonesia's predominantly Muslim population feels close to the Palestinian problem and feels involved in the peace talks leading to its resolution.

"When the agreement of Gaza and Jericho was first signed, there was some opposition to it even among mainstream politicians," he explained, adding that the majority of Indonesians, however, appeared to support the first step action taken by the Palestinians.

Mohammad Hassan Adamy

He said opponents to the agreement argued that the question of Jerusalem was not addressed in the agreement. According to the Israeli-Palestinian agreement, the fate of Jerusalem has been left for final stage negotiations.

"Our society follows political events in the Muslim world very closely," the ambassador said, adding that this attitude places pressure on his government to take "careful" steps when dealing with foreign policy issues.

He dismissed reports that his country was moving towards establishing diplomatic ties with Israel describing them as "Israeli attempts to push the issue."

Important Islamic countries, like Indonesia and Pakistan, have been under pressure from the U.S. to normalise relations with Israel. India and Nigeria, with Muslims composing about half of their populations, established ties with Israel after the Gulf war.

The ambassador said his government's position has been relayed to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, when he visited Jakarta and held talks with President Suharto in late September.

Mr. Adamy said his developing country could contribute to the development of the Palestinians in technical areas but doubted that such contribution would come in the form of financial assistance.

"We are more likely to look at ways of assisting through technical know-how and within the context of cooperation among developing countries," Mr. Adamy said. He did not specify the areas of expertise in which Indonesia can contribute.

The ambassador lauded ties with Jordan, saying his country is the third largest importer of phosphates and potash from the Kingdom, after India and China.

More needs to be done to address the balance of trade, which is tilted in favour of Jordan, he said, but also to cement further brotherly ties between the two countries.

"We are trying to encourage (Jordanian) businessmen to buy from Indonesia, just at the same time that we are taking Jordanian personnel to train in our country," he said. He mentioned the field of oil drilling where Indonesia could help Jordan as an example.

Iraq digs resumed

BAGHDAD (R) — Austrian archaeologists have started digging again in Iraq, the first foreign scientists to resume excavations there since the 1990-91 Gulf crisis, a senior official said Monday.

"They are the first to break the archaeological embargo and we expect other teams to follow suit," said Dr. Muayad Sa'id, head of Iraq's archaeology department.

The Austrians are working at Borsippa, a Babylonian town 110 kilometres south of Baghdad.

UAE takes delivery of Apache helicopters

DUBAI (R) — The United Arab Emirates said it took delivery on Sunday of the first batch from a total of 20 Apache attack helicopters on order from McDonnell Douglas Corporation.

"I think about half a dozen Apaches were delivered today (Sunday)," an Arab military source told Reuters.

The official Emirates News Agency said a ceremony was held to mark the occasion but did not say how many of the helicopters were delivered or what kind of armament they carried.

In 1991 Washington agreed to sell the UAE 20 AH-64 Apaches attack helicopters in a deal worth about $600.

The Apache can carry a mixture of rapid-fire machineguns and missiles including air-to-air missiles, air-to-ground hellfire missiles and 70-mm rockets.

A Western military expert said the UAE had opted for standard configuration and did not order air-to-air missiles. He said McDonnell Douglas was expected to deliver the remaining 14 Apaches to the UAE in late 1994.

As part of the Apache deal, McDonnell Douglas agreed to invest in projects in the UAE.

Under the UAE's military procurement programme, arms suppliers are requested to reinvest part of the value of a deal in profitable projects to help the Gulf Arab state build an advanced industrial base and widen private investments.

Officials in the UAE said on Saturday McDonnell Douglas's first offset project would focus on helping the UAE's newly formed environmental body introduce standards and regulations.

"This is the first of many projects by McDonnell Douglas in the UAE... they are interested in pursuing profitable projects based on the environment," an official at the UAE offset group told Reuters.

He did not put a value on the investment projects but said the American firm was looking at several and had set up a group of companies with environmental expertise. He said areas under consideration included recycling and clean-up projects, fuel emission control and energy saving equipment.

The UAE plans to spend between $5 billion and $7 billion on new arms by the end of the century.

In February it ordered 390 Leclerc battle tanks worth $3.5 billion from France. Orders for anti-submarine helicopters and advanced jet fighters are being studied.

Kuwait has decided to buy between 18 and 24 Apache helicopters from McDonnell Douglas worth around $550 million, military experts said Monday.

"I believe Kuwait has concluded its evaluation process and selected the Apache." A western industry source familiar with the deal told Reuters. "A deal will be signed after an agreement is reached between the U.S. and Kuwaiti governments."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Arafat issues charter for human rights body

TUNIS (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat on Sunday issued the charter for an organisation to ensure all future Palestinian laws and institutions respect human rights. The charter says the "National Palestinian Supreme Organisation for Human Rights" will be set up in a way that guarantees its independence, the PLO news agency WAFA said. The new organisation will aim to make sure that "the protection of human rights is assured in the various laws and institutions... and in the work of the... the state of Palestine and the Palestine Liberation Organisation," it added.

UAE says Iranian tried to convert Muslim

DUBAI (R) — An Iranian doctor was arrested in the United Arab Emirates state of Sharjah for allegedly trying to convert an Indian Muslim to Christianity. Gulf News daily said Monday that Sayed Mostawfi, a doctor on a private visit in the UAE, allegedly stopped an Indian expatriate on the street and urged him to embrace Christianity. Dr. Mostawfi's action is "in violation of Article 319 of the federal criminal law," the newspaper said. If found guilty, he could face up to five years in prison. The Indian man complained to the police who later arrested Mr. Mostawfi while handing the Indian a book on Christianity in the Urdu language, Gulf News said.

Guest kills six at Iran wedding

TEHRAN (R) — An over-enthusiastic guest at a traditional Iranian wedding shot dead six people and wounded 14 when he lost control of an automatic weapon after firing in the air in celebration, Keyhan newspaper said. The paper said the wedding took place in the central Lorestan province. It named the guest as Rasool. Iranian newspapers reported Saturday that two people had been killed and seven wounded in a similar incident in the same area.

Spain deports 10 Moroccan stowaways

ALGECIRAS, Spain (R) — Spain Sunday deported 10 young Moroccans who had stowed away on a Spanish ship from Casablanca to Barcelona, officials said. The youths, aged between 10 and 16, were put aboard a regular ferry from Algeciras, in southern Spain, to the Moroccan city of Tangier. The stowaways, found after being crammed between containers aboard the freighter Eva Del Mar for six days, asked for political asylum in Spain on humanitarian grounds, but this was refused by the Madrid Interior Ministry.

Allied manoeuvres to take place in Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — The Gulf war allies are to embark on joint manoeuvres in Kuwait for the first time since the end of the war in 1991, a government spokesman said. Units from the armed forces of the United States, Britain, France, the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, Egypt and Syria will take part in the manoeuvres, Colonel Mussib Najm said. The date of the manoeuvres, which will take place "over an extended period of time" will be set by a meeting here next Sunday of military officials from all the countries concerned, he said. The U.S., Britain and France have conducted a number of separate exercises with Kuwait since the allied force, under U.S. leadership, flushed invading Iraqi troops from the emirate in February 1991. The latest exercise, involving U.S. and Kuwaiti troops, started on Friday and is expected to last several more days, Col. Najm said. Egypt and Syria were the principal partners of the GCC states — Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates — in the multinational force which expelled the Iraqis following their invasion of the emirate in August 1990.

Iran shuts illicit distillery, arrests 10

TEHRAN (R) — Iranian police have shut down a huge illicit distillery and arrested 10 people accused of attempting to distribute home-made vodka in and around Tehran, Kehyan newspaper reported. The newspaper said police uncovered the illegal alcohol ring after arresting an unidentified man with some 4,500 bottles of banned alcoholic beverages. Investigations later led police to the distillery in an orchard in the Tehran suburb of Karaj. Alcoholic beverages were banned in Iran after the 1979 Islamic revolution. Offenders are usually fined and flogged.

7 sentenced to death in absentia in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — An Algerian special court sentenced seven Islamic activists to death in absentia Sunday for killing a policeman in May and other crimes, the official Algerian news agency APS said. The court, in the western city of Oran, is one of three set up last year to counter Muslim fundamentalist guerrillas. It sentenced 10 other activists to prison terms of between five years and life for forming "terrorist groups" and offences against state security, APS said. On Saturday the prosecution had asked the court to sentence nine of the militants to death. At least 267 Muslim militants have been sentenced to death in Algeria since January last year, when the authorities cancelled elections which the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front was about to win. Thirteen have been executed this year and eight have had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment.

Abu Dhabi fish safe to eat

ABU DHABI (R) — The Gulf emirate of Abu Dhabi has given its territorial waters a clean bill of health and says people can safely resume eating local fish, the official news agency WAM said. On Sept. 21 the authorities in Abu Dhabi, one of the seven members of the United Arab Emirates, warned residents not to eat the fish because they had found mercury, arsenic, lead and cadmium in dead fish, dolphins, turtles and seagulls off the coast of the emirate. Last Saturday they destroyed 30 tonnes of fish which officials said were found to contain poisonous chemicals. The agency quoted an official as saying extensive studies now showed that the Gulf waters were clean.

Gulf states seek to curb oil pollution

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Gulf Arab coast guard chiefs met here Sunday to discss how to stop oil tankers from dumping waste into their waters which have become the most polluted in the world.

The officials from the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) said they were seeking to bolster coordination and increase surveillance of tankers and other merchant vessels that have become the main pollution source.

"Our discussions are focusing on boosting coordination and exchanging information about vessels plying the Gulf and the possibility of increasing patrols to detect violators," one delegate said.

"It is time to step up joint action to stop this phenomenon, which threatens our sea, on which we also depend for our drinking water."

Gulf waters are 47 times more polluted than waters in other areas and their shores 100 times more contaminated than other shores, according to the United Nations.

Pollution is also caused by ship accidents and daily leakage from oil terminals and pipelines in the region, which sits on more than 60 per cent of the world crude reserves and exports nearly one fifth of its needs.

United Arab Emirates (UAE) officials estimate that 143,000 tonnes (over one million barrels) of crude oil find their way into Gulf waters annually from tankers, pipelines, terminals and ship accidents.

Nearly 30,000 oil tankers and other vessels pass through the strategic Straits of Hormuz every year to lift crude and gas.

But many of them have been accused of dumping sludge and other waste in the Gulf. Regional officials have called for interception of violating tankers and prosecution of their owners.

UAE Health Ministry environment chief Saad Nimeiri recently proposed setting up dump-wasting centres at regional ports to solve the problem.

"The solution is that Gulf states should set up centres at their ports for tankers to throw their balancing water. They should also draft legislations to force tankers to dump their waste in those centres," he said.

Experts said pollution in the Gulf was aggravated by natural factors such as high temperatures, salinity and shallow waters.

The Gulf, with an area of around 240,000 square kilometres, is a semi-closed area and sea currents are slow on the surface. As a result an estimated three to five years are needed for all water in the Gulf basin to be replaced by new water from the open sea.

Thousands of fish and other sea creatures and birds were killed in a huge oil slick during the 1991 Gulf war.

Another slick, estimated at two million barrels, was caused by an Iraqi air strike on Iran's giant Nowruz oilfield at the start of their 1980-1988 war.

The GCC states — Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and the UAE — also fear that pollution could hit their vital desalination plants, which provide more than 70 per cent of their potable water.

"We have to boost cooperation to fight pollution. But the problem is that it is difficult to identify the ships which are causing pollution unless they are caught red-handed," said Abdul Rahman Al Shalwah, director of the coast guard department at the UAE Interior Ministry.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION
Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 ..... Le Monde Sous Marin
18:30 ..... Beaumanoir
19:00 ..... News in French
19:15 ..... Vanches
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew
20:00 ..... News in Arabic
20:30 ..... People Next Door
21:10 ..... The Outsider
22:00 ..... News in English
22:20 ..... Biography

PRAYER TIMES
04:11 ..... Fajr
05:28 ..... *(Sunrise) Duha*
11:24 ..... Dhuhr
14:46 ..... 'Asr
17:21 ..... Maghreb
18:38 ..... 'Isha

CHURCHES
St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifieh, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church. Tel. 632785.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church Tel 661757
Terrasancta Church Tel: 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church Tel. 630851. Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church Tel. 652526.
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 624328.
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 823624, 654932
Church of Nazarene Tel.675691.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Fine weather conditions will prevail, with winds northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

	Min./Max. temp.
Amman	14 / 29
Aqaba	21 / 34
Deserts	15 / 32
Jordan Valley	20 / 34

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31, Aqaba 33. Humidity readings: Amman 19 per cent, Aqaba 45 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Mohammad Hindi 898787
Dr. Rateb Zaitoun 888685
Dr. Mohammad Al Abbadi 778959
Dr. Nidal Al Dahleh 827195
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asema pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660
Nairouih pharmacy 623672
Najib pharmacy 847632

IRBID:
Dr. Mazen Sharairi 248056
Alquds pharmacy ..... (—)

ZARQA:
Dr. Azmi Salaita 544989
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Marka 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 686100
Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital ..... (09)900560
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732
Al Hikma Modern Hospital ..... (09)990990

IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... (02)272275
Ibn Al Nafees Hospital ..... (02)247100

AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

04:30 ..... Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
07:30 ..... Damascus (RJ)
07:30 ..... Dhahran (RJ)
08:45 ..... Aqaba (RJ)
09:30 ..... Muscat, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 ..... Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
10:00 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
16:35 ..... London (RJ)
16:55 ..... Frankfurt (RJ)
17:00 ..... Cario (RJ)
17:30 Chicago, New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:50 ..... Vienna (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

12:20 ..... Cairo (MS)
16:45 ..... Rome (AZ)
18:15 ..... Paris, Beirut (AF)
19:45 ..... Beirut (ME)
23:00 ..... Bucharest (RO)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:30 ..... Aqaba (RJ)
08:30 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:00 ..... Vienna (RJ)
11:15 ..... Montreal, Toronto (RJ)
11:45 ..... Paris, Brussels (RJ)
11:50 ..... Geneva, Madrid (RJ)
12:25 ..... Frankfurt (RJ)
12:45 ..... Cairo (RJ)
12:55 ..... London (RJ)
19:00 ..... Madrid (RJ)
20:30 ..... Jeddah (RJ)
21:15 ..... Larnaca (RJ)
21:45 ..... Colombo, Singapore (RJ)
22:30 ..... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

13:50 ..... Larnaca, Vienna (OS)
13:15 ..... Cairo (MS)
17:45 ..... Dubai (AZ)
00:00 ..... Bucharest (RO)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple	800/600
Banana	680
Banana (Mukammar)	620
Beans	850 / 650
Cabbage	150 / 100
Carrot	420/320
Cauliflower	350/ 250
Cucumbers (large)	200 / 100
Cucumbers (small)	380 / 300
Eggplant	280 / 200
Fig	280 / 180
Garlic	1000 / 900
Grapes	380/300
Guava	560/ 420
Lemon	220 / 140
Marrow (large)	240 / 140
Marrow (small)	440 / 430
Mulukhia	200 / 100
Okra	1200/900
Onion (dry)	260 / 200
Pepper (hot)	280 / 200
Pepper (sweet)	280 / 200
Potato	450/ 350
Tomato	120/ 80
Sweet melon	300/200

ITING FINNISH CLERGY: His Majesty g Hussein Monday receives at the Royal urt Archbishop John Vikstron of the angelical Lutheran Church in Finland l confers on him Jordan's Independence dal of the First Order. Accompanied by official delegation from Finland to visit Evangelical Lutheran Church of Jordan, Archbishop Vikstron voiced the church's appreciation of King Hussein's continued efforts to achieve a just peace and enhance democracy in the region. The King said that Jordan is keen on enhancing religious tolerance and is determined to achieve peace and security

Minister swear in election supervisors

AMMAN (Petra) — The 1989 parliamentary elections in Jordan gave the Ministry of Interior sufficient experience to handle the 1993 elections with far better skill and higher performance, said Minister of Interior Salameh Hammad Monday.

The current measures and arrangements should ensure fair and free elections, said the minister at a swearing in ceremony for 60 heads and members of central committees charged with supervising the Nov. 8 elections.

The committee, he said, represent an elite group of officials who handled the 1989 elections with efficiency and who are well-prepared for the coming polls.

The first task facing them, said Mr. Hammad, is the distribution of the voter cards to registered citizens.

He said the ministry will assist these committees in facilitating the election process.

Meanwhile, Balqa governor Eid Qatarneh Monday said teams preparing for the general elections have completed preparatory arrangements including updating voter lists and assigning voting centres in the governorate.

Next week, he said, the teams will start distributing voter cards, noting that 74 voting centres and 235 ballot boxes have been readied.

Registered voters in Balqa Governorate number 126,932,

Salameh Hammad

Mr. Qatarneh said, adding that girls school in Salt will serve as a vote counting centre.

Mr. Qatarneh spoke after a meeting in his office attended by heads of concerned government departments involved in the election procedures.

Urging citizens to vote, Mr. Qatarneh said that six seats for Muslims and two seats for Christians are being contested by 50 to 60 candidates in Balqa governorate.

In the Irbid governorate, it was announced that 380,000 citizens have registered to vote.

The governor's office there announced that arrangements are under way to prepare the voting centres and to set up sub-committees to help in the procedures.

Petroleum refinery dispute to be referred to arbiter

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government and the Jordanian Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) have decided to refer a dispute over the profits of the company to an arbitration committee, officials said Monday.

"We are waiting for the government to nominate an arbiter and we will also name one," said Saad Al Tal, director general of the company.

The dispute revolves around a government demand for JD20 million as part of the refinery's profits between 1981 and 1990.

In legal terms, the government and the company differ over the interpretation of the concession agreement that was given to the company in 1956. The article states that the company, which holds a monopoly of oil refining and gas bottling in Jordan, is bound by the prices set by the government for its products for the consumer.

According to Mr. Tal, "we were very comfortable with the agreement for 23 years before someone in the government thought we were making high profits and the government should have a share in it."

"The word to describe the government stand is simple: greed," charged the outspoken Mr. Tal. "All this while government officials were happy with the arrangement under the concession agreement, and now some officials feel that the treasury needs money and the refinery company could be one of the easy sources."

Mr. Tal argued that it was "cost-efficient management" of JPRC rather than the profit margin on the company's products that led to higher profits.

As such, he said, the government has no right to make any demands on the company since it already exercises indirect control over the consumer prices of its products.

No immediate comment was available from the government. But officials said in private that the executive authority would go ahead with arbitration.

Neither the officials nor Mr. Tal knew when the government would name its arbiter to the panel. "For six years we have been discussing the subject and it is only now that the government has decided to seek arbitration," he said. "Now we are pushing the government to nominate an arbiter so that the issue could be resolved."

Legal sources said if no compromise could be reached even after arbitration, then the issue would have to be referred to a court of law.

The refinery company is a public limited entity. The government-guided Social Security Corporation (SSC) and state-owned Jordan Investment Bureau owns 12 per cent of its stock, and around 58 per cent are with individuals and the rest is with commercial establishments such as the Arab Investment Company and Islamic Development Bank.

Abdul Hamid Shoman, chairman of the Arab Bank, Jordan's largest commercial bank, heads the board of directors of the company.

The operations of the company are defined as: "Manufacturing and refining petroleum and hydrocarbonic components, and manufacturing secondary derivatives resulting from the refining operations, also to store distribute and market all such products. In addition, it can also produce liquid petroleum bottles, asphalt drums and underground tanks for gas stations."

It has a paid-up capital of JD32 million and the equity of its shareholders is nearly JD60 million.

erebral Palsy Foundation) start fund-raising drive

MAN (J.T.) — Under atronage of Her Majesty en Noor, the Cerebral Foundation (CPF) will nise a sponsored march a festival to raise funds its programmes, accord- to an announcement day by CPF President ri Bilbeisi.

ddressing a press confer-, Mr. Belbeisi said uni- ity and school students members of youth clubs collect donations.

e march will start from Jordan Inter.Continental el and end at Al Ahli at Wadi Seer.

he festival, which will be earlier, on Oct. 9, will ude folkloric perform- s and a play by the Nabil and Hisham Theatre Group as part of the fund-raising campaign, he added.

Referring to the foundation's projects and activities, Mr. Bilbeisi said in 1992 the CPF offered rehabilitation and medical services to 1711 children at its centres in Amman, Zarqa, Karak, Irbid, Aqaba and Salt.

Cerebral Palsy is a condition of paralysis or loss of volitional control over a motor-function resulting from a brain disorder suffered either before or at birth or during infancy. Cerebral palsy does not necessarily imply mental retardation; many children affected with cerebral palsy grow to be mentally competent adults.

Mr. Bilbeisi said most of the services to the cerebral palsy victims are offered free of charge and in cooperation with local hospitals.

The most major aim of the foundation, according to Mr. Bilbeisi, is to reduce the prevalence of cerebral palsy in Jordan from five to one per 1,000 births.

Mr. Bilbeisi said specialists working for the foundation are studying a survey conducted in Tafileh and Mafraq regions to determine the needs of those affected with cerebral palsy.

He added that since its establishment in 1977, the CPF has assisted 7,000 children at its centres in six cities.

Swiss, Jordanians plans joint trade corporation

AMMAN (Petra) — Visiting head of the Arab-Swiss Chambers Commerce Elias Atieh Monday said that his office and the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce plan to set up a joint corporation aimed at encouraging trade exchanges between Jordan and Switzerland.

Speaking at a meeting with Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary General Marwan Awad, Mr. Atieh said the two countries are determined to promote economic and trade cooperation and Jordan has an excellent opportunity to benefit from the vast experience of Swiss technology.

Mr. Awad welcomed the idea, of a joint endeavour but said Jordan seeks to adjust the balance of trade between the two countries which is in favour of Switzerland.

Jordan, he said, hopes to make the adjustment through increasing its exports to Switzerland.

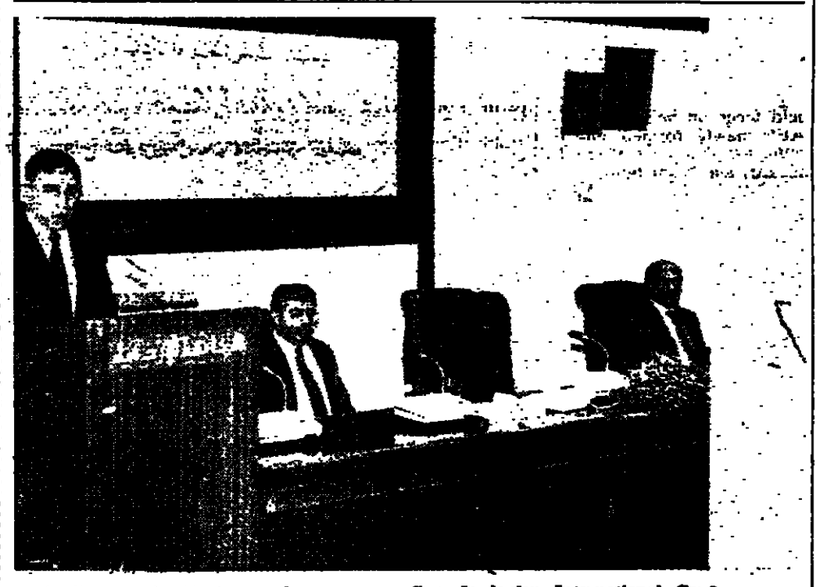
According to the Amman Chamber of Commerce, Jordan has been selling Switzerland men's wear, fresh vegetables and fruit and importing Swiss pesticides, auto spare parts, watches and gold, among other commodities.

The Swiss, delegation met with the president of the federation of Jordanian chambers of commerce, Mohammad Asfour, and discussed scopes of cooperation between the two countries.

In reviewing Jordan's economic development Mr. Asfour pointed out that the national economy has been adversely affected by the continual harassment of international shipping in the Gulf of Aqaba.

Mr. Asfour also said that cooperation between the two sides in technology can help promote economic and trade development in the Kingdom.

The Swiss delegation, which arrived Sunday, is expected to spend five days in Jordan to discuss with officials and private sector businesspersons ways to expand trade links with Jordan.



ersity of Jordan President Fawzi Gharaibeh day addresses the opening session of the first Jordanian International Conference on Electric Power systems (Petra photo)

opulation growth, development raise ergy production needs — Gharaibeh

MAN (Petra) — Population growth and development ssitate increasing forms of gy production and intenefforts to raise the efficienf equipment used in the ration of power, said Unity of Jordan President i Gharaibeh Monday.

ldressing the first Jorda- International Conference Electric power Systems, h opened at the University rdan, Dr. Gharaibeh said efforts require that scien- and researchers mobilise means and potentials.

e scientists, he added, can reduce the amounts of wasted energy and develop existing energy resources.

In reviewing the university's endeavours in energy research, Dr. Gharaibeh said it has been the policy of the administration to encourage research and the application of experiments which, he said, have been conducted in cooperation with local and international organisations.

Daifallah Dalabieh, head of the conference preparatory committee told the opening session that 33 research papers covering all fields of electric power will be reviewed.

Four paper's by energy experts from foreign countries will also be discussed by the delegates, who represent Arab and foreign countries, said Dr. Dalabieh.

He said the four-day conference is attended by 60 Jordanian engineers, as well as deans of university faculties.

On the sidelines of the conference, a general exhibition displaying electric power generating equipment was opened at the University of Jordan. Also on display are books and leaflets on electric energy.

King condoles Indian president

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent condolences to Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma on the deaths of Indian citizens who were tragically killed in last week's devastating earthquake in western India.

Jordanian students safe

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs received a cable from the Jordanian Embassy in New Delhi that confirmed that Jordanian students in India are safe and have not been harmed as a result of the earthquake.

The statement said there are no Jordanian students in the areas hit by the natural disaster.

Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday addresses the opening of a seminar on 'Women in Habitat Development' (Petra photo)

Princess Basma urges assisting women in socio-economic development

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday urged various governmental and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Jordan to help women increase their contributions towards socio-economic development in the Kingdom.

Jordanian women's duties have increased to a great extent in the last few years and their role could be played more significantly through continual training and education, said the Princess in an address to the opening session of a seminar entitled "Women and Habitat Development."

The seminar was organised by the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) as part of Jordan's observance of World Habitat Day Monday.

Women's potentials, the Princess said, are among the numerous elements that should be mobilised and developed towards comprehensive development of the country.

Princess Basma thanked the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements for its efforts in promoting women's participation in development and voiced appreciation to HUDD for striving to provide homes for the limited and low income groups in the Kingdom.

HUDD Director Yousef Hiyasat outlined the department's programmes, noting that each housing estate has a community centre to provide facilities for women's socio-economic activities.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- ☆ Art exhibition by artist Ali Al Mi'mar at the Orfali Art Gallery. Telephone 826932.
- ☆ Photographic exhibition on nature and the township of Sakeb by artist Ghassan 'Aayasrah at the Student Affairs Department at the University of Jordan.
- ☆ Exhibition of etchings by Mohammad Omar Khalil at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing the permanent exhibition. Telephone 643251/2.
- ☆ Plastic art exhibition by artist Hussein Daaseh at the Alia Art Gallery.
- ☆ Caricature drawings exhibition by artists Mustafa Al Wawi and Ala' Tabash at the University of Jordan's Student Affairs Department.
- ☆ Exhibition of paintings and old manuscripts at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ☆ Painting exhibition by artist Fateh Moudarres at the Baladna Art Gallery.
- ☆ Art exhibition entitled "Eastern Dancing — Entertainment in Spare Time" by Sigrid Bensemann at Goethe Institute.
- ☆ The First International Festival of Fine Arts in Jordan entitled "Colour and Light in the Nabatean Civilisation" at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts in Jordan.

DRAMAS

- ☆ Children's drama entitled "Aladdin's Lamp" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 1:00 a.m.
- ☆ Folklore drama entitled "The Season" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

BOOK EXHIBITION

- ☆ Comprehensive book and educational aids exhibition at the International Exhibition Hall - University Road.

Experts seek to produce pesticides-free fruit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Horticulture has made good progress in the last few years, but the adverse effects of pesticides on the fruit have presented the fruit-growing industry with a major problem, said Renato Butti, head of the European Community (EC) in Jordan Monday.

In an address to the opening of the first regional seminar on the use of pesticides in horticulture in the Middle East, Mr. Butti said world markets and nations are currently striving to produce fruit completely free of remnants of pesticides and it is hoped that this three-day seminar would provide some solutions towards achieving this objective.

In opening the seminar on behalf of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Agriculture Minister Marwan Kamal said the ministry was concerned with the proper and sound use of pesticides in Jordan farms.

"We are concerned with the procedures of importing, manufacturing and registering the types of pesticides used in the Kingdom, to ensure that nothing would endanger human health and the environment," the minister said.

Dr. Kamal said the ministry's agricultural extension staff regularly guide farmers on the proper use of pesticides at the right time of the year to minimise any damage to their crops.

With the help of the German government, the ministry has established special laboratories to analyse pestisides and determine the extent of their effect on agricultural products, said the minister.

Organised at the Amman Chamber of Commerce by the EC, the French Embassy in Jordan, the ministry of agriculture and the Fruit Producers Association of Jordan, the three-day seminar is attended by delegates from France, Germany, Spain and the Arab World including Jordan.

The organisers said that appropriate and reasoned use of pesticides is the best means for the Middle East to preserve competitive agriculture.

Papers to be presented include integrated pest management in vegetable crops and green houses; integrated pest management in citrus; integrated pest management in orchards; the problem in using pesticides in Jordan; and good agricultural methods regarding the environment.

NEWS IN BRIEF

'dan is invited to Qatar fair

MAN (Petra) — The Federation of Jorda- Trade Unions has received an invitation to part in the Qatar International Tourism and el Fair. The four-day fair is scheduled for l 1994. The federation has said it is enaging Jordanian tourism and travel agencies ike part.

ernment to help Al Al Bait University

MAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul n Majali Monday issued a circular in which lled on governmental institutions to support Al Bait University by providing it with ssary equipment and furniture.

A chief to head for Saudi Arabia

MAN (Petra) — Director of the Civil Avia- Authority (CAA) Ahmad Juweiber Tuesday s for Saudi Arabia at the head of a ation to have bilateral talks with their Saudi Arabian counterparts on air transport and means of enhancing bilateral relations in civil aviation between the two countries.

Blood drive starts at university

AMMAN (Petra) — The Blood Bank at the Ministry of Health Monday organised a blood drive at the Engineering and Technology Faculty at the University of Jordan. The campaign's supervisor, Basma Khreisat, said the activity is organised by the National Blood Bank in cooperation with local institutions to maintain an adequate reserve to be used when necessary.

Trade fair ends well in Morocco

CASABLANCA (Petra) — The Fourth Jordanian Industrial Fair held here has ended. The Ministry of Industry and Trade said that the fair was a success for Jordanian industry, enabling manufacturers to conclude numerous deals for the sale of their products.

Toll in hundreds in Mogadishu

(Continued from page 1)

scene.

Western journalists said they saw truckloads of corpses driven away from the maze of streets around the Bakara market where the battle raged until dawn.

Reporters who drove near the battle scene saw the burnt-out shells of four APCS believed to belong to Malaysian forces.

The charred hulk of a Black Hawk helicopter also lay shattered in a street close to the Bakara market, a teeming district which is a hotbed of support for Gen. Aideed.

Issa Mohammad Syad, Gen. Aideed's foreign affairs expert, told AFP he had escaped Sunday by leaping from the second floor of a building and jumping over a wall as the attack began in the Bakara market region.

Gen. Aideed's aides said the general was not around during the assault, but one added that he was "well and safe" and "came later to visit the people and see the death and destruction."

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Blessing in disguise

RUSSIAN HARDLINERS might have committed the gravest tactical error of their struggle on behalf of parliament when they stormed a major television centre and other major governmental buildings Sunday. This wrong move gave President Boris Yeltsin a trump card and the excuse that he was waiting for to use force to end the pro-communist rebellion and storm the centre of power of the rebels, the White House, where defiant parliamentarians under the command of ousted Vice-President Alexander Rutskoi and Speaker of Parliament Ruslan Khasbulatov, were making their stand. Mr. Yeltsin also seized upon the occasion offered to him by declaring a state of emergency in the capital city. Armed with the excesses of his opponents and using the full might of his regime, Mr. Yeltsin had before him a golden opportunity to eliminate his foes and he did not hesitate to do so. The success of the storming of the parliament building by forces loyal to the president was a foregone conclusion since the other side has not been able to muster any real military counter force to check the swift military advances of governmental troops against their beleaguered bastions.

Still, the military showdown between the executive branch and the legislative branches of government may not have sealed for all times the future in favour of Mr. Yeltsin. It has to be recalled that the judiciary in the country came out strongly against the seemingly arbitrary measures taken by Mr. Yeltsin nearly two weeks ago when he moved to dissolve parliament and rule by decree. Mr. Yeltsin has had a series of encounters with his political foes encompassing diehard communists of the last order and right-wing nationalists. Winning the last round may end up being as uneventful as winning the previous other rounds and could end up being only a prelude for additional struggles that would shape the future of Russia.

Washington's unwavering support to Mr. Yeltsin throughout the two-week old ordeal held steady even at the darkest moments and might have influenced the outcome of the power struggle. After signalling to Moscow not to use force against the White House and its occupants in order to preserve and protect the human rights of the besieged parliamentarians, the White House in Washington may have sensed that its concern for the lives of the antagonists of the Yeltsin regime in the Russian White House may have been overtaken by events when the anti-Yeltsin camp overplayed its hand by resorting to violence.

The West's blessing to Mr. Yeltsin's moves against his challengers developed a momentum of its own and culminated in the final assault against the parliament building in the early hours of Monday.

The battle for the Russian White House has thus been won by Mr. Yeltsin. Whether the war for the Kremlin has been won by Mr. Yeltsin or not is another matter. Given the record of the incumbent president while in office and the repeated challenges to his power base, no amount of outside blessing can compensate for the seemingly meagre grassroots support that he enjoys. Only when pluralistic democracy in Russia is allowed to have the final say about the fate of Russia could there be stability and progress in that once mighty nation.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL DUSTOUR daily Monday tackled the situation in the occupied Arab lands in light of the latest Israeli raids on Arab homes and the arrest of Palestinian activists. Israeli practices can only remind the Arabs of the terrorist and barbaric nature of Israel, a state that has never relinquished racism and oppression as a means of imposing its will on others, said the paper. The demolishing of homes, arrest and killings indicate that nothing has changed in Israel's policies despite the conclusion of a deal with the PLO for peace. Israel realises too well the repercussions and the adverse consequences of its measures in the occupied lands, and is no doubt aware that its brutalism is bound to negatively affect the peace process and weaken the position of the moderate Palestinians, said the paper. We had hoped that the PLO-Israeli deal would pave the ground for an era of peace and cooperation rather than a continuation of brutalism against the Arab population of Palestine, continued the daily. The paper expressed hope that reason would prevail and that a real change in Israel's mentality would materialise soon and a new door would be opened and a new opportunity will be available for the pursuit of the cause of genuine peace.

A COLUMNIST in Al Dustour reflected on the coming parliamentary elections, saying that they could by no means be considered as multi-parliamentary elections. Taher Udwan said that most of the condidates are running as independent or representing tribes and only the Islamic Action Front, among the 20 parties, has their candidates running in the elections on partisan ground said Udwan. The writer said that in light of this situation, one can only see that it is a strange kind of political pluralism not found in the West or East and even in developing countries, including the Arab World. Observers say that the coming elections will result in many surprises, but they say that it is certain that the Islamic Action Front will acquire the lion's share of the parliamentary seats, with the rest filled by representatives of tribes. He said that the situation would then look like in the 1950s and 1960s when parliaments were ineffective.

The View from Fourth Circle

By Rami G. Khouri

History's broken baggage and tomorrow's promise

The brief but flashy controversy over whether or not to hold the parliamentary elections on schedule was a most telling episode that reveals much about the political and psychological condition of Jordan and its people. It was not an isolated event, but merely the most lively of a series of issues that broke through the traditional ban on publicly discussing sensitive issues related to the origins, the identity and the future of the people of Jordan.

Since the signing of the PLO-Israel declaration of principles three weeks ago, Jordan has witnessed a complex and sometimes confusing series of statements about relations with the PLO, the electoral status of Jordanian and Palestinian origin, future political ties with Palestine, potential economic links with Palestine and Israel, Jordan's expectation of international compensation for having shouldered the responsibility of hosting Palestinian refugees since 1948 and the wisdom or otherwise of holding the elections on time.

These are important issues that are being discussed in a less than optimum environment characterised by haste, artificial deadlines and pressures, emotionalism and a certain amount of fear for the future. More telling than any single issue, however, is the totality of the debate under way in Jordan today. This is a country in the process of reconfiguration, overhaul and rebirth. The process is necessarily messy and often emotionally charged, but the outcome will be a stronger, more honest and better country, more able to adapt to the changes to come in this region.

The single most important factor for success is our commitment to the truth — to dealing with the real issues that confront us without hiding behind exhausted and expired slogans or the false shield of Arab pride. The truth is our friend, and it can also be a formidable ally for those who would honour it in the national battle for historical legitimacy and durability. The two most constructive aspects of the current debate in Jordan are that we are discussing in public sensitive issues that used to be talked about only in private and that we are addressing the core questions that define our country and identities. These can only be positive developments, about which Jordanians and Palestinians should feel proud, rather than awkward, uncertain, or apologetic.

Postponing the election was a litmus test of our capacity to deal with our truths — the truths of who we are, where we came from, what we aspire to, how we deal with one another and how we relate to others in our immediate neighbourhood. Most of those who advocated postponement said they were concerned about holding elections at a time when the atmosphere was charged with the emotionalism of the PLO-Israel peace accord. This is correct as a superficial manifestation of the deeper fear that I believe prompted them — the fear of facing the unspoken truth of our hybrid Jordanian-Palestinian demography.

We have been hit by an earthquake that promises to bring about enormous changes in the political, economic and strategic forces that define this region — yet we seem unwilling to grasp this fact, preferring to argue about issues that are, in comparison, small, provincial and historically negligible in the sweep of our ancient Middle Eastern human epic. In a region of 350 million Arabs and Muslims dominated by economic, demographic and ideological giants such as Syria, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Sudan and Israel, we look rather trivial fretting about the impact of merely hundreds of thousands of folks who may move merely a few dozen kilometres in the span of a few months.

What is trivial in a regional context, however, could be momentous in a purely local, Jordanian context. When Jordan was established as a modern state in the 1920s, its population was probably around 250,000 people — so demographic shifts of hundreds of thousands of folks do strike a deep chord when measured by the local scale of statehood. And the modern record of Jordanian statehood speaks for itself: it speaks well of itself, its principles and its accomplishments.

But the earthquake unleashed by the peace accord should make us realise that what worked in the past probably will not work in the future. The old patterns of fragmentation, dependency and domestic and regional militarism that defined Arabs and Israelis alike have run their historical course. The states that will succeed and the communities that will endure in the new Middle East will be those that shed the addictions that sustained then in the recent past — the addictions of constraining emotionalism, narrow nationalistic fears and a patriarchal, autocratic monopoly of political and economic power.

What happened in Jordan in the last three weeks is that these issues all exploded onto the national psyche in a sudden, slightly bewildering manner: the realisation that some Palestinians might leave Jordan and return to Palestine highlighted the fact of our dual national demographic character; at the same time, many in Jordan felt slightly unsure about the domestic implications of a stable, peaceful Middle East, in which Israeli and Palestinian states might attract foreign aid, private investments, entrepreneurial skills and political attention that had partly gone to Jordan in recent decades.

The initial reaction of some of these worried folks amongst us was to try and halt the clock — to stop history dead in its tracks, to revert to the comforts of the past that they knew and enjoyed, to shelter for just a little while longer under the warm wings of patriarchy, autocracy, dependency and a list of emotional slogans as long as the Silk Route to China. The elections became the symbol of everything in the future that was unknown and worrying. If we postponed the elections, we could also postpone having to deal with the awkward truths that we had camouflaged for so many decades — Jordan's demographic duality and all that this implies in political and economic terms.

Once again, though, the power of Jordan's humanism and honesty triumphed over its fears and weaknesses. The decision to hold the elections as scheduled reflected a determination to address our truths and to come to terms with our demographic and political reality. We would no longer be held hostage to the sensitivies and insecurities of the past; we would no longer bow in fear to the awkwardness of our unscheduled, spontaneous, mid-century Jordanian-Palestinian fusion.

The elections will pass without great fanfare or drama, and most successful candidates will probably reflect one of three dominant trends: a very large tribal base with lots of built-in voters, a successful Islamist/secular leftist appeal to the discontent of many people suffering economic hardships and political frustration, or a practical, credible approach to solving the real life economic and social problems that dominate most people's day-to-day concerns. After the elections, however, we will continue the task of working out a new political culture that can see us through this moment of transformation and into the next century. We will continue the job of national retooling and overhauling.

The delicate issue of Palestinian-Jordanian dichotomy will continue to dominate people's thoughts, and it will continue to be an awkward issue as long as it is framed in the context of two people who are competing with one another for the same pie, or the same constituency. In the new Middle East that will emerge, this is a caveman attitude that is also a recipe for mutual and collective suicide. The challenge before us is to leave this shallow provincialism behind us with all the other broken baggage from earlier this century, and to start discussing Jordanian-Palestinian identity not as a dichotomy, but as a duality — as a source of strength and vitality, rather than as a source of vulnerability or weakness.

I believe that the confusion and emotionalism of the past three weeks largely reflect the start of this process: the occasional bitterness, contradictions, ambiguities and denials we live with reflect the difficulty that yesterday's men are having coming to terms with today's realities and tomorrow's opportunities. The continued survival and progress of Jordan, as of all other states in this region, will require substantial changes in the politics and power flows that have defined us for most of this century. The elections are an important step along a very long road to this end. The decision to hold them on time is a vital reaffirmation of the realistic and slightly noble position we hold in the landscape of Arab reconfiguration and rebirth.

It is a commitment to the truth — however sensitive and trying it may be. The difference between today and decades past is that none of us in the Middle East has the option to hide from the truth any longer — for the truth has been imposed on us by our broken treasuries, our occupied lands, our mortgaged national resources and our exhausted people. In the last few years, Jordan has been a possible model of how to escape from these harsh Arab realities on the strength of economic realism, political courage, and social justice. It was the courageous and correct thing to do to hold the elections on time and to maintain this course — and to remind the merchants of greed and fear that they can always find salvation and redemption in the truth that is nothing more than the vitality and intelligence of their own people.

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Rabin moves to the centre with 'possible benefits'

By Haim Baram

WEST JERUSALEM — The festivities in Israel continue unabated, the Palestinians lick their wounds and the Israeli establishment celebrates the sweet aftermath of historic Sept. 13. This temporary summing-up of the dazzling events of September 1993 is by no means exaggerated. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is slowly discovering that the big wide world contains some bizarre and exotic lands, in addition to the good old United States of America. This astounding revelation seems to boggle Mr. Rabin's mind. The ceremony at the White House was perhaps distasteful for him, especially the hand-shake business, but since then he has recovered, at least for the time being.

Your correspondent was told that the dour premier, who really dislikes Arabs as people, did not enjoy himself in Morocco, either, and the trip on Sept. 14 was simply too much for him. But the lavish international and domestic praise has endeared him somewhat to the peacemaking endeavour and the ex-general is reported to have mellowed considerably. He still suffers from uncontrollable bouts of envy towards his arch rival Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, and this was the only reason for his sudden change of heart on Sept. 11 when he agreed to go to Washington.

Ironically, Mr. Rabin's shaky international standing and reputation was virtually rescued by the two public figures that he hates most, Mr. Peres and Yasser Arafat. But a new political process is now taking place within Israeli society, as the obvious gains for Israel have become absolutely plain. The warm reception given to the mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO, after 27 years of anti-Arafat propaganda and brainwashing, surprised Mr. Rabin and shocked the main opposition party, Likud, not to mention the extreme right.

This, unexpected development has widened Mr. Rabin's options. His new terminology includes terms like "referendum" and even general elections. Mr. Rabin has followed Mr. Peres from the pragmatic right into the moderate centre, and his steps were typically cautious and even reluctant. He was astonished, and then delighted, to find that the bulk of the Israeli electorate has shifted to the centre, too. This dramatic turn about has left the Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu, in a truly impossible situation.

Netanyahu's blunders

"A man cannot be too careful in the choice of his enemies," wrote Oscar Wilde. Mr. Rabin has probably never heard of Wilde but he was and is very fortunate with the Likud's pathetic choice as leader. Mr. Netanyahu, 43, is inexperienced and his reputation as a man of very little intelligence is spreading very rapidly. For him, this has been a Black September in which he has managed to commit every blunder imaginable.

The Likud leader has misread and totally misunderstood the mood of his own followers, and his grasp of the profound sociological changes that led them to discard right-wing fundamentalism is very poor indeed. The results of such a huge misjudgement have been alarming, from Mr. Netanyahu's point of view. Throughout the momentous ten days leading to the highly publicised event at the White House, the Likud leader addressed himself only to the lunatic right in a vehement, populist, semi-fascist style. Thus he successfully alienated the Israeli middle classes, and virtually pushed them into Mr. Rabin's hesitant arms. Instead of winning over the potential floating votes (crucial in any general election in Israel) Mr. Netanyahu courted the ideological expansionists, who are in his pocket any way!

The Israelis who support the rapprochement with the PLO, almost 60 per cent of the Jewish population, include most of the traditional floating voters, in addition to a great many habitual Likud voters. These people would have listened attentively to reasoned, detailed and documented criticisms of the accord. But they have rejected the fanatical, total rejection offered by Mr. Netanyahu. Especially since the hapless Likud leader has failed to advance any original alternative peace agenda. One does not have to be a bleeding-heart leftist in order to dream about peace and prosperity after a century of bloody conflict. Mr. Netanyahu simply does not understand this.

Evidence of his folly is seemingly endless. During the mass demonstrations against the Israeli recognition of the PLO on Sept. 7, Mr. Netanyahu banished David Levy, the respected ex-foreign minister and an authentic representative of North African immigrants, from the podium and allowed his most dangerous enemy, Ariel Sharon, to address the huge crowd instead. At a stroke Mr. Netanyahu enhanced Mr. Sharon's position and prevented the Oriental Jews (traditional supporters of Likud) from protesting against the government.

Mr. Netanyahu is a godsend to the political centre, and his loud speeches and frequent TV appearances fail to impress anyone, except die-hard Likudniks.

The possible benefits

On Sept. 19, Mr. Rabin flew to Alexandria to meet the Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. Egypt is, of course, very relieved, since the PLO has now finally legitimised full ties with Israel. On the same day Ma'ariv displayed a long list of countries with which Israel is about to have diplomatic relations. The mind-boggling list comprises Pakistan, Morocco, Tunisia, Afghanistan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Cambodia, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Zimbabwe. This is enough to lure thousands of business-minded Israelis into the lucrative future offered by Mr. Shimon Peres.

All these perks depend, of course, upon the implementation of the Interim Agreement and even more upon the nature of the permanent settlement. Some politicians within the Labour Party, Mr. Rabin included, may still undermine all the historic achievements of September 1993. Those who suggest that the accord is bound to lead to a Palestinian state delude themselves and others. The world and the hard core peaceniks in Israel, still have an arduous task to prompt the victorious Israeli establishment to capitalise on the new atmosphere of goodwill rather than recklessly waste it.

Some potentous remarks made by Mr. Rabin on his return from Alexandria angered the Syrians. The Israeli premier blasted Hafez Al Assad for his intransigence in Lebanon, and hinted that a final agreement with Syria was not on the cards in the foreseeable future. This prompted Mr. Assad to accuse Mr. Arafat of branching out from the Arab consensus by talking to the Israelis "behind my back." Mr. Rabin seemed nonchalant, almost disdainful. After all, the Americans launched a fund-raising conference to usher in the Israeli-Palestinian accord, and his North Atlantic horizon seems reassuringly cloudless — Middle East International.

Human capital is most promising source of growth in Mideast

By Berta Gomez

WASHINGTON — The problems of poverty and unemployment in the Middle East could be greatly alleviated by shifting government spending away from military programmes in favour of basic education, according to a panel of economists.

"Economists are increasingly realising that the real source of growth is in human capital," Nemat Shafiq, a World Bank economist, said during the Middle East Institute's 47th annual conference, held on Sept. 30/Oct.1, 1993.

The recent and dramatic success of economic liberalisation in several East Asian countries has also caused experts to revise their ideas about "what is possible," even in areas with limited natural resources, she added.

Ms. Shafiq was joined by Alan Richards of the Democratic Institution Support Project and Fareed Mohamedi of the Petroleum Finance Corporation. Their analysis of "Economic Discontent" in the Middle East — one of several panel discussions held during the two-day conference — was moderated by Joe Stork of the Middle East Research and Information Project.

Although reliable statistics are scarce, the panelists agreed that unemployment in the Middle East is both widespread and a potential source of instability.

"All numbers on unemployment... should be taken with several truckloads of salt," warned Mr. Richards, who added that "exactly what is going on is difficult to determine."

Politically, however, "it doesn't matter... because whatever the case may be, the frustration is very real," he said.

According to Mr. Richards, unemployment in the Middle East is most severe among young people with a modicum of education, but "who have been poorly provided with marketable skills." Unable to find appealing jobs in government or the private sector, and unwilling to accept the low-wage jobs that are available to them, they often spend years simply waiting for work and becoming increasingly angry, he said.

The solution lies in greater economic freedom and democracy — coupled with a strong emphasis on basic education, which he described as "absolutely essential." A greater reliance on open markets and more accountable governments will produce more jobs, he said. If workers have been given proper basic training, they will have the skills to fill those jobs, and even to adapt to changing economic circumstances in the future, he explained.

Mr. Mohamedi noted that even in a country as wealthy as Saudi Arabia, "under-employed and under-educated" young people are showing signs of frustration with the status quo.

Mr. Richards noted that other panel discussions held during the conference had focused on "encouraging signs" of political and economic reform, and he expressed hope that "that is the wave of the future" in the Middle East.

"Unemployment in the Middle East is most severe among young people with a modicum of education, but who have been poorly provided with marketable skills."

Another area in which all three panelists agreed was the need to trim military spending throughout the region. Fareed Mohamedi, whose comments focused on Saudi Arabia, noted that its military expenditures "have never made sense to me... especially when it still, basically, can't defend itself."

At a time of stagnant or falling oil revenues, the Saudi government will nevertheless be expected to maintain the high standard of living within the kingdom and will, Mr. Mohamedi predicted, find itself under severe financial pressure.

"Increasingly... the ability of the (Saudi) government to sustain future spending at its historic levels is being called into question," he said.

Despite the general agreement on the need to curb military expenditures in the region, none of the panelists was optimistic on that count. Mr. Richards described any reductions as "unlikely" and Ms. Shafiq added: "I'm not holding my breath" — United States Information Agency.

Cousteau society backs bill of rights for future generations

By Paula Sands

CHESAPEAKE, USA — In January 1994 the Cousteau Society will be 20 years old. Captain Jacques Cousteau, who turned 83 last June, is on his ninth trip around the world aboard his famous Calypso, while the Alcyone — the society's new turbo sailship — is tackling her first trip around the world. Every year the ships go into dry dock for about three months — the Alcyone is currently in dry dock at Singapore and the Calypso is in dry dock at Ho Chi Min City, formerly Saigon.

Peter Burtchell, one of two lecturers for the Cousteau Society based in Chesapeake, Virginia, brings the fascinating world of Capt. Cousteau's expeditions and environmental research to the public. His presentations cover subjects as wide-ranging as oceanography, marine biology, wetlands ecology, fisheries biology, wildlife biology, ornithology, botany, volcanology, glaciology, seismology, astronomy, meteorology, fire ecology, history, anthropology and architecture.

The Cousteau Society remains primarily an environmental education and an environmental research organisation funded by private contributions. "We do most of our research in developing countries," Burtchell explained. "We don't do much in terms of research in the U.S. because there are so many very good research organisations already here — universities, corporations, government agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency. We feel we serve a much greater need in the poorer developing countries that don't have research vessels and research scientists."

The Alcyone has completed half of its round-the-world tour which is broken up into a series of expeditions called "Rediscovery of the World." Named for the daughter of the Greek god of the wind, the Alcyone has diesel engines on board for maneuvering in dock or when there is no wind. But she is primarily a wind-powered vessel and uses Capt. Cousteau's invention called turbosails. "When they are at sea and the wind is blowing sufficiently strong, they save quite a bit of fuel and produce much less pollution by sailing under sail turbopower, as opposed to using a diesel engine," Mr. Burtchell said.

Jacques Cousteau

The latest Alcyone rediscovery expedition, which ended last December, was along most of the Mekong River in Southeast Asia. "When we do a river, we try to do a source-to-delta expedition, along the entire length," Mr. Burtchell said. That is what the Cousteau Society did in the Amazon in 1983-84, starting in the Andes and going down the entire 4,000-mile length of the river, to the Pacific Ocean. It took about a year and a half to complete the study.

This time, "we started in Thailand and Laos up at the Chinese border and planned to sail all the way down the Mekong River to the delta," Mr. Burtchell explained. "Unfortunately, when we arrived at the Cambodian border, the Cambodian civil war was in full swing. We had to bypass the portion of the Mekong that flows through Cambodia. We picked it up again on the Vietnamese side further down stream."

Mr. Burtchell says the Cousteau scientists spent the majority of the time in the Mekong River delta, an enormous wetlands. They worked with Vietnamese scientists to do an ecosystem study, focusing on the impact of the Agent Orange defoliant used during the Vietnam war.

"There seems to be an unusually high rate of birth defects among children in the area," he said. "There is no firm connection between Agent Orange and the birth defects but we, along with the Vietnamese government, were beginning to study it to see if there was a link. We are a long way from establishing a link. A lot of work needs to be done."

Two years ago the Cousteau started an expedition along the entire length of the Danube River which lasted about a year. "Even though the expedition is over, we are still very much concerned about the Chernobyl-type reactors that are found along the banks of the Danube — in countries like Hungary, for instance — that are in serious danger of failure," Mr. Burtchell said. "We are working with the Union of Concerned Scientists to see if we can get the European Community to do something about shutting down these potentially very dangerous nuclear reactors."

"When we began our rediscovery expeditions in 1985, we launched the Alcyone from France, where she was built. The Calypso began the expedition from Norfolk, Virginia," Mr. Burtchell said. Since then, the ships have been heading westward around the world, around the Americas, all the way down the tip of South America and back up, all the way up to Alaska and the Arctic Ocean and down to Japan. They do not travel side by side — they are going on their own side expeditions — but their paths cross at times.

Just before the Danube and the Mekong River expeditions, the Alcyone spent two years circumnavigating Australia, studying the great white shark. "It was the most exhaustive research to date on a very much misunderstood creature," Mr. Burtchell said. "We tagged and studied more great white sharks than anybody has ever done before, taking tissue samples."

Taking a break while his ship is in dry dock in Vietnam, Capt. Cousteau recently travelled to Paris to discuss the next research project. One of the possibilities is to continue westward, perhaps heading towards Africa, beginning with Madagascar. In the next two years or so the Calypso and the Alcyone will end up back in the Atlantic and possibly the Mediterranean, where Capt. Cousteau began experimenting with the scuba equipment he invented.

"We just celebrated the 50th anniversary of the invention of the aqualung in January 1993," Mr. Burtchell said. He adds that the society has gone back to the Mediterranean from time to time to compare and contrast. Studies show that things are not as bad as they were 10 or 15 years ago. "In many instances the nations around the Mediterranean basin have taken measures to stop dumping hazardous waste and waste water from sewage treatment plants," he said.

Still active in the expeditions, Capt. Cousteau spends most of his time overseas, living aboard the Calypso. He rarely leaves the ship except for meetings with the Cousteau Society Board of Directors or meetings with heads of state and other government officials. During the last year, he has met with more than 30 heads of state and prime ministers. He also participated in the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.

Capt. Cousteau has a very close relationship with the head of the United Nations Environment Programme and with Boutros Ghali, the U.N. secretary-general. He serves on an advisory committee for the U.N.

The major thrust of the Cousteau Society — other than expeditions and production of documentary footage — is a worldwide petition campaign called the "Bill of Rights for Future Generations. "The campaign has been under way for two years and will last one more year," Mr. Burtchell said. "We hope to gather as many as 10 million signatures." The society has between four and five million signatures already. The campaign will culminate in the fall off 1994.

At that point, "Capt. Cousteau hopes to address a meeting of the U.N. and ask that it pass a resolution to incorporate a 'Bill of Rights for Future Generations' into the constitution of each nation," Mr. Burtchell said. "If not that, he hopes for a resolution that would encourage governments, when they pass new legislation, to think not just of the present constituents but of the future constituents — of the children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren to come."

Capt. Cousteau is urging governments to think of how new laws will affect the quality of life of future generations. "Will they have clean air, clean water, uncontaminated food, the basics for a decent quality of life?" Mr. Burtchell explained. "That's our big drive for the rest of the decade."

Another long-term goal is building and launching Calypso II. The first Calypso celebrated her 50th anniversary in 1992. "She's not getting any younger, that's for sure," Mr. Burtchell said. "What Capt. Cousteau and his son, Jean Michel, envision is a new, larger ship — a whole system rather than just a ship because she would be closely linked with satellite telecasts, enabling essentially instantaneous broadcasts."

From the end of an expedition until a documentary is shown on television usually takes six months to a year. "There are certain situations — a prime example is the Exxon Valdez oil spill (in Alaska) — where it would have been more helpful if we had had instantaneous satellite telecommunications. Although neither of our ships was in the area, we pulled crew members off both ships and flew them there. We knew it was going to have a global impact, which it did. We have the basic radio communications, but not for televising aboard ship."

Jean Michel has been and remains closely involved in the work of the Cousteau Society. Recently, he has struck out on his own. He has started the Jean Michel Cousteau Production Company, which will also be doing documentaries.

The Cousteau Society is following Russia's continuing dumping of nuclear waste in the Arctic but is not directly involved in monitoring. "We are on record as being against nuclear energy," Mr. Burtchell said. "Capt. Cousteau believes that as long as we have nuclear power plants, the world will be held hostage by the potential for nuclear terrorism. Nuclear weapons go hand in hand with that."

Once the Alcyone reaches the east coast of Africa, the Middle East is an area of likely study. "We would like to have gone to the Gulf when the oil spill occurred during the Gulf war, but we were not allowed for pretty much understandable reasons. To the best of my knowledge, no non-governmental organisation has been allowed in," Mr. Burtchell noted.

The good news according to an official government study conducted last spring, says Mr. Burtchell, is that the Gulf is looking good. "The reefs have recovered quite well. The Exxon Valdez was a worst-case scenario, and, believe it or not, the Gulf was a best-case scenario." He says the impact or the severity of an oil spill is really determined by two factors — the grade of the crude and focal temperature.

"The grade can be very heavy and viscous as it was in Alaska, or thin and light with a lot of evaporative volatiles as it was in the Gulf," Mr. Burtchell said. "As for temperature, Alaska was quite cold so the heavy, viscous oil congealed and clung to everything and sank to the bottom. In the Gulf, it was a light, thin crude, a lot of which could evaporate. They had warm temperatures to facilitate that evaporation." He says the shoreline along Saudi Arabia where the crude oil was either carried by spring high tides or by high winds into the dune area has hardened and will be that way forever.

The Cousteau Society considers the most pressing environmental problem for the entire globe to be the unique population surge of the 20th century. Mr. Burtchell said: "The root cause of all the environmental issues — nuclear power, dumping waste material, abusing resources, extinction of species — can be traced back to the fact that we have an ever-growing population on this planet that is desperately trying to survive on ever-dwindling natural resources."

"We think that the most important thing is education, particularly educating women in the developing world," Mr. Burtchell said. "Zimbabwe, for example, is making good progress in terms of midwives going out into the countryside and educating village women about contraception and about their right to chose how many children they want." Instead of having as many as 10 or 12 children, which will all live in dire poverty, Mr. Burtchell says, women are being told they could have fewer children, raise them well, see that they are educated and lift the family out of poverty.

The traditional method in a lot of countries that have large, poor populations, is to see children as a type of social security in the absence of any state aid to the old, he added. "Parents hope that one or two children will get a good government job, for instance, and be able to take care of them in their old age."

The population of the world is predicted to rise well into the next century. "We are very concerned... We fell we need to do something quickly so the world isn't forced to take drastic measures." Mr. Burtchell explained that, depending on a country's culture and religion, different solutions may be sought. "When we go to developing countries to talk to heads of government, to environmental managers, to scientists, to the people in the villages, we feel we don't have the right to say, in terms of population, you must do this."

"We need to say if you don't find some sort of mechanism within your traditions, culture, religion and political system to stem the growth of your population, you're going to end up — the entire world is going to end up — in chaos."

Capt. Cousteau himself has often expressed fears of a catastrophic scenario for the long-term future: With a severely overpopulated planet, the richest top 2 per cent of the population would live in luxury — behind high walls, with guards at the gates and guard towers. The other 98 per cent would be barely eking out a living, trying to get at the people behind the walls.

"We don't feel it has to be that way," Mr. Burtchell said, "but people have to wake to that possibility. That's what we're hoping to do with the petition for a Bill of Rights for Future Generations" — World News Link.

The Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. Ltd.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Changing telephone numbers

Due to the change of telephone numbers as announced by the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) in order to upgrade service level, the JPMC's telephone number changed from 607141 to 660141. All other lines of the company have also changed and will be operating on automatic switch as illustrated in the table below to be effective as of Oct. 9, 1993.

Salameh Al Madani
Managing Director

Old No.	New No.	Old No.	New No.	Old No.	New No.
660141	607141	660147	607059	679396	607091
660142	607010	662150	607068	679397	607154
660143	607109	662176	607079	679398	607209
660144	607030	671141	607091	674216	607254
660145	607038	671147	607098	674228	607269
660146	607048	679395	607106	674239	607318

Ingenuity helps ordinary folk survive Yugoslav hyper-inflation

By Leonard Santorelli
Reuter

BELGRADE — The fat wad of 10-digit dinar notes in the pocket of the privileged foreigner buys precious little in Belgrade's near-empty shops. For local people, things are much worse.

Meat, fish, sugar, soap, coffee, cigarettes and cooking oil disappeared from the shelves long ago. When beef was last in the shops in August, a kilo cost almost the entire monthly average wage of 16.

For the well-off, such goods can be found on the black market but most Belgrade residents have to get by on a meagre diet of bread, potatoes, peppers and, if they are lucky, the occasional egg.

The restaurants and cafes in the scruffy city centre are largely deserted. When a group gathers, the talk is about the latest arrival of goodies such as radio batteries, Madonna tapes or perhaps milk.

But as the first winds of autumn blow through Belgrade's weed-infested parks, the conversation will get around to the approaching harsh Balkan winter and how the city will survive without heating fuel supplies of which ran out in April.

Three years ago, former Yugoslavia was on the verge of switching to a market economy that promised western-style wealth.

Now the economy is in ruins. With dinar prices edging up from morning to afternoon in many shops, annual inflation will hit 1.6 billion per cent by the end of the year. Banking, insurance and most commerce has collapsed.

The cause, according to most economists, is not only U.N. sanctions imposed against rump Yugoslavia but the break-up of the country with its interdependent republics, which were both a source of raw materials and a market place for goods.

In 1990, for instance, 300,000 Fiat cars a year were made under licence in Serbia, with parts from Slovenia and Croatia. Now, with the parts run out and outlets gone, production is down to fewer than 1,000.

With production at a standstill, few foreign reserves, and escalating war costs (and, in Serbia's case, the penalty of U.N. sanctions), the former Yugoslav republics resorted to printing more money to pay for their needs.

As fighting intensified, the gap between the government's needs and its ability to pay widened. More and more noughts had to be added to the banknotes rolling off the printing presses.

To survive in a time of chronic shortages and hyper-inflation, queueing, bartering, scrounging, fiddling, hoarding and smuggling have become a way of life for many ordinary people.

Stana Tomasevic, 60, has been standing in queue outside a shop for two hours, slowly shuffling forward. "My husband has had two operations on his heart and has to take medicines constantly," she said:

"Now I give his entire pension of 15 billion ($6.25 in late September) for the drugs he needs, and we live on my pension which is smaller," she told Reuters.

At a nearby market stall, an elderly woman asks the price of the vegetables and, in some confusion, tries to count the noughts on the notes in her hand. The busy stall-holder thrusts some peppers in her bag and pushes her away.

The elderly, on small pensions and most in need to largely unavailable medicines, have been worst hit. The suicide rate among the old in Belgrade alone is up to one every two days, according to Tanjug News Agency.

Some get by, living on their wits. On most mornings, 37-year-old Marko Stankovic gets up in the dark to start queuing for milk for his two children.

He starts chatting to other people in the queue, gets one of them to keep his place in the line — then nips around the corner to another queue, this one for washing powder, and repeats the process.

This kind of opportunism is not uncommon. It is widely accepted here, for instance, that refugees sell their Red Cross food parcels on the black market. Small-scale smuggling, mainly of petrol and cigarettes, goes on all the time.

But most people scrape by quite legitimately, according to economists monitoring the situation. Most of the 200,000 Yugoslavs who work abroad support families back home.

Many city-dwellers are given food by relatives in the country, where supplies are more plentiful. An electrician, for example, will repair a farmer's television for a sack of potatoes.

Few can get used to the haphazard effects of an inflation rate which multiplies so rapidly that workers have portions of their monthly wages paid every few days at a protected rate.

Office worker Milan Djordjevic recalled: "The other day my wife persuaded me to see a film in town. Tickets were 800 million, but I hadn't received the latest payment from the firm so we waited one day. "We went the next evening and it had gone up to 1.5 billion."

JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES CO LTD

ANNOUNCES THE INVITATION TO TENDER NO. 36F/93

JPMC announces the invitation to tender No. 36F/93 **(for the supply of two units of rear dump trucks).**

The tender documents are available at JPMC offices in Amman, Supply Department, until 2:00 p.m. local time Monday 25.10.1993.

Application for documents should be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of JD 20 for each set of tender documents.

The closing date for submitting tenders is 12:00 hours local time, Monday Nov. 1, 1993.

Sameh Madani
Managing Director

Gammo presents upbeat economic prediction

(Continued from page 1)

which pledged nearly $2 billion to support Palestinian autonomy in the occupied territories envisaged under the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) agreement signed last month. Jordan was given a key role in regional economic development, Mr. Gammo said.

The Kingdom's role, Mr. Gammo said, will be played as an associate member of an ad hoc liaison committee at senior expert level at the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process to coordinate with donors with particular focus on private sector trade and investment in the Middle East.

The committee will include the European Community (EC), the U.S., Japan, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Canada and the Nordic countries in addition to Jordan, Egypt, Israel and the Palestinians as associate members.

"The committee will supervise the channelling of international assistance to regional economic development, including the rebuilding of the occupied territories," Mr. Gammo said.

The World Bank will act as the secretariat for the committee and will assume control of the "operational functions" of the panel, the minister added.

Within the context of Jordan's economy, Mr. Gammo said, the Washington meetings were "highly positive," and "give an added input to our efforts to improve our economic performance."

Mr. Gammo would not be drawn into commenting on the aim and functions of the Jordanian-American-Israeli economic working group that was announced after Friday's White House meeting among President Clinton, Crown Prince Hassan and Mr. Peres.

Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali was quoted on Sunday as saying that the government was awaiting the return of Crown Prince Hassan to know more about the group.

Diplomatic sources had said earlier that it was proposed during the White House meeting and Jordan accepted the proposal, since the Americans were involved.

"The group will be a window for Jordan to play a key role in the economic development of the occupied territories," an official told the Jordan Times Saturday.

The British Council

Congratulations to the following people who have passed the University of Cambridge first certificate in English:

Jamal Issa	*Zaid Osama Abdo*
Jeong-Hak Seo	*Nancy Libzo*
Roselyne Cardinal	*Abdel Halim Mousa*
Nour Hayek	*Nabeeh Matanes*
Mahmoud Hassan	*Nidal Al Sarabi*
Marina Hijazin	*Rami Hassan*

The British Council Language Centre run courses throughout the year leading up to the FCE exam, which is held in June and December.

Registered in England as a charity No. 209131

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Arab Gulf states dash Turkish hopes to revive water project

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Gulf Arab states have decided an ambitious water pipeline project proposed by Turkey three years ago is unfeasible, dashing its hopes of reviving the project.

Turkey paid $2 million on a detailed study, which it said had found the multi-billion-dollar "peace pipeline" was economically feasible. It presented details to Gulf states and awaited their response.

"Gulf water and electricity ministers have found that the Turkish pipeline project is economically not feasible and decided not to go ahead with it," United Arab Emirates (UAE) Water and Electricity Minister Humaid Al Oweis, told local reporters late Sunday. "We found that one gallon from that project will cost five fils (1.36 cents) while one gallon of desalinated water costs one fils (0.27 cents)."

When Turkey proposed the project, it put its costs at $21 billion but the UAE official said they had risen to $23 billion.

Turkish diplomats in the region said Ankara was hoping the project would be revived after the end of the Gulf war and the start of peace negotiation between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

The negotiations also include multilateral talks on such issues as water and environment. Gulf states and Turkey are participating in those talks on Oct. 26.

"Turkey hopes Gulf and other countries will consider the peace pipeline project again after the return of peace to the Gulf the start of the peace process in the whole Middle East," a Turkish diplomat said.

The pipeline was to pump water from Turkey's twin rivers, Ceyhan and Seyhan to Syria, Jordan and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states — Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Kuwait and the UAE.

Diplomats cited security fears as the real reason for GCC's reluctance to agree on the project. They said the project would put the Gulf group at the mercy of Turkey and those two Arab countries.

"Turkey's dispute with Iraq and Syria over the Euphrates is still fresh in their minds," an Arab diplomat said.

GCC states are among the richest nations in oil but poorest in water given their desert land. This forced them to turn to the sea, where they have built nearly 45 major desalination plants at a cost of more than $100 billion.

The plants produce around 1.4 billion cubic metres (46.6 billion cubic feet) per year and provide more than 70 per cent of their potable water.

Most of them have announced plans to build more units to face a rapid growth of nearly 10 per cent due to rising population and a large expansion in the industrial sector. This, added to the region's fearsomely hot weather, has made water consumption in the Gulf one of the highest in the world.

At a water conference in Dubai last year, Lebanon proposed supplying Gulf states with water from its numerous rivers through a 1,500-kilometre pipeline, which it said would cost one third of the Turkish project.

GCC officials have said they are awaiting for details of the pipeline, which is also to transit Syria and Jordan and pump around 760 million cubic metre (25.3 billion cubic feet) of sweet water per year.

Iran bypassing traders to sell oil in Mediterranean

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh said Iran has a new marketing policy to bypass traders and sell oil directly in the Mediterranean, an oil industry newsletter reported Monday.

Mr. Aqazadeh told the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) that Iran was acquiring storage in the Mediterranean and northwest Europe and bypassing traders by dealing directly with SUMED, the pipeline linking the Gulf of Suez with the Mediterranean.

Asked if this was a new move he said: "Yes, this is correct. It is our policy to go directly through SUMED and find storage in the Mediterranean. We have a new marketing approach in this field."

"I suppose they have finalised the agreement with SUMED and we have storage in Greece. We will expand this marketing approach," he pointed out.

He said Iran now wanted its own firms to sell the oil through SUMED rather than going through the traders.

SUMED's late chairman, Mohammad Mae'bed, had told Reuters in September that Iran was negotiating to use SUMED directly for the 500,000 barrels per day (b/d) it normally sends through the pipeline, after the flow was virtually cut off in late August.

Mr. Aqazadeh also disclosed that when Kuwait decided to stay out of the June OPEC agreement. This caused difficulties for Iran, and "some two months ago" he ordered his production officials to raise output.

"Before that we stayed close to our assigned level," he said.

Independent monitors have estimated Iran pumped between 3.6 million b/d to 3.7 million b/d for most of this year.

Russian unrest leaves oil markets cold

LONDON (R) — Oil markets surprised themselves Monday with their relaxed view of the fighting in Moscow.

Fear that unrest might boil over in Russia, which sells two million barrels of oil a day to the West, has been an intermittent prop for petroleum prices ever since the August 1991 abortive coup. After the gunfire actually began Sunday, Asian prices firmed.

But London November futures for the benchmark Brent Blend of crude later put on only a meagre 14 cents from their Friday close, then eased off from an early high of $17.44 per barrel to trade at $17.40.

It seemed, at least in part, that assurances that supply was not interrupted had calmed market jitters.

"There are no problems with oil supplies. Everything is O.K." said Vladimir Pekerman, an official at Russia's energy ministry.

Peter Gignoux, head of the London energy desk at trading house Smith Barney Shearson, noted there had been no reports so far that strife had spread from Moscow or involved trade unions.

He added, "perhaps it takes time for the market to detoxify from OPEC and it just is not ready for another jolt of adrenaline."

The Moscow fighting followed by four days a meeting of the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), which reached a new quota agreement to curb excess supply that added 70 cents to the price of a barrel of crude.

Geoff Pyne, an energy economist with UBS Securities in London, commented that "the market has had so many Russian scares that it may take a wait-and-see attitude with just some risk premium added to the price."

Western stocks are high with 97 days of forward cover in storage in the industrial nations, according to the International Energy Agency.

Russian sales include gasoil, used for heating fuel, which is in strong demand in Germany and elsewhere in western Europe with the onset of the northern winter. But October gasoil futures were not much changed around $174.50 per tonne at London's midday.

"There are no extreme situations. Everything is running more or less normally," said Sergei Andreyev, an aide to Alexander Putilov who is the chairman of Rosneft, a big exporter of Russian refined oil product.

Transworld Marine Shipping Agency, which ships Russian crude, fuel and gas oil from the Baltic ports of Ventspils and Klaipeda, said exports from the Baltic appeared unaffected.

"I don't think tanker loadings have been disrupted," Transworld tanker agent Richard van Wyelie said. "We would have heard if there was a problem."

Russia's government took measures to protect energy supply, transport and communication, ITAR-TASS news agency said. A resolution signed by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin was aimed at supporting the week-long state of emergency introduced by President Boris Yeltsin Sunday and averting "illegal actions and acts of force."

Japanese companies win $1.6b Qatar tanker deals

DUBAI (R) — Three Japanese shipyards have won contracts worth a total of about $1.6 billion to build seven tankers to carry liquified gas from Qatar to Japan.

A statement by the Qatar Liquefied Gas Company Limited (Qatargas), obtained by Reuters Sunday, said the Japanese shipyards of Mitsui Engineering and Shipbuilding, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Kawasaki Heavy Industries would build the seven 135,000-tonne tankers.

The tankers will carry about four million tonnes of liquefied natural gas (LNG) a year from Qatar's giant North Field to Japan's Chubu Electric Power Co. Inc. starting in 1997.

The statement said contracts were signed Saturday with a consortium of Japanese shipowners who will lease the tankers to Qatar for 25 years. It named the shipowners as Mitsui, OSK Lines, NYF Line, K-Line, Showa Line and Lino Line.

The Qatargas project is part of Qatar's ambitious plans to cut reliance on its limited oil reserves and exploit its gas reserves — the largest in the Middle East after Iran's.

Qatar aims to produce and export up to 25 million tonnes of LNG a year by the end of the decade.

The statement said the first two tankers would be delivered in late 1996. The last will come into service in the year 2000.

It did not say how the contract for the seven tankers would be divided between the three shipyards, nor did it give a value for the deal. Industry reports have put the value of the tankers at slightly under $250 million each.

Japanese shipyards had been tipped earlier in the year to win the contract but newspapers said the deal had to be repriced in dollars because a recent surge in the value of the yen against the dollar made initial Japanese offer too costly.

Last month Japanese firms lost out on a $1 billion contract to build four LNG tankers for the UAE emirate of Abu Dhabi. The contract was awarded to Finnish firm Kvaerner Masa Yards Inc.

In May, Qatargas awarded the Japanese company Chiyoda the contract to build the plant which will convert the dry gas from the North Field into LNG for transport by tanker to the Far East.

The state-owned Qatar General Petroleum Corporation has a 65 per cent stake in Qatargas. Total S.A. and Mobil Corp. have 10 per cent each, and Japan's Marubeni Corp and Mitsui and Co. Ltd each hold 7.5 per cent.

Kohl says German unity more costly than planned

BONN (R) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl said Sunday Germany's three-year-old unification would cost more and take longer to be carried out than expected.

But he said unity day was a day of joy and called on Germans to help pull their country out of recession and raise living standards in formerly communist East Germany to Western levels.

He also denounced neo-Nazi violence against foreigners.

"Together we must do everything to get out of the present economic recession," the conservative chancellor said in a television address.

"Chances for new growth are good. Our most important task is to create jobs for the future. We will overcome the economic and social problems. But it is going to take longer and cost more than most of us — including myself — had assumed," he said.

Mr. Kohl promised at unification in 1990 to East Germany into "a blossoming landscape" in four years. But the region is still plagued by mass unemployment brought on by unification.

"I understand your worr ," Mr. Kohl said. "Also in tt West may people today ask if their jobs are safeguarded."

But he said unification was an opportunity "for all of us" and that a lot had been done in the past three years.

Meanwhile, industrial production in the former West Germany rose by 2.1 per cent in August from July but was still 5.6 per cent below year-earlier levels, the economics ministry has said.

China mulls foreign ownership of dying factories

PEKING (Agencies) — China is considering new ways to attract foreign investment to bail out failing state enterprises, including selling them outright to overseas investors, the official China Daily has said.

Foreign trade ministry official Li Yue was quoted as saying he had proposed new methods of wooing overseas capital in addition to existing joint-venture models.

In one model, loss-making state enterprises would "sell their assets outright to foreign companies to form wholly owned foreign ones," said Mr. Li, of the ministry's foreign investment department.

Current practice allows foreign firms to enter joint ventures with state-run enterprises or buy minority shareholding interests.

China has begun allowing wholly-owned foreign ventures on a limited scale but only for new projects.

Another model proposed by Mr. Li would allow struggling firms to contract management to foreign firms who would enjoy tax holidays and other favourable treatment now granted to joint-venture partners.

Loss-making state enterprises, whose products typically are of low quality and sell poorly, are a major contributor to growing budget deficits. The government has long protected them from competition for fear of the social instability that would result from massive layoffs.

Mr. Li's proposals appear to be an expansion of a two-year-old programme under which loss-making "backbone" industries are being merged with profitable Chinese "white knight" enterprises — sometimes switching to entirely new product lines.

Some hopeless factories are being shut down altogether and their workers laid off with half pay at state expense.

The problem with the existing scheme is that there are far more ailing enterprises than there are healthy ones able or willing to bail them out.

The China Daily business weekly said Sunday that a crippling shortage of funds is hampering production in Chinese state enterprises and threatening reforms in the loss-making sector.

The lack of a steady credit supply has affected state enterprise production in the third quarter. State Commission for Economic Restructuring official Jia Heting was quoted as saying.

"The money shortage has made it difficult for China to reform its enterprises in a market-oriented way," he said, referring to moves to wean the sector — which lost 25.9 billion yuan in 1992 — off state subsidies and give firms decision-making powers.

"Many enterprises have seen their debt balloon," Mr. Jia said. "And triangle debts between enterprises has surfaced again with a vengeance."

The Chinese government had previously claimed to have solved the problem of triangle debts — or debts between state enterprises, one-third of which are in the red.

Kazakhstan's oil industry in decline, report says

ALMA-ATA, Kazakhstan (R) — Much of Kazakhstan's oil industry was in decline this year, with output falling, equipment run down and many workers leaving the sector, an official report has said.

"There has been a noticeable decline in daily output in recent years. Whereas daily output was 62,000 tonnes in the fourth quarter of 1991, it was only 52,000 in the first quarter of 1993," it said.

Kazakh Energy and Fuel Resources Minister Kadyr Baikenov said last month that oil output in 1993 was expected to be about the same as 1992's 26 million tonnes (520,000 barrels per day).

The republic signed a joint venture deal with U.S.-based Chevron Corp this year to develop the giant Tengiz and Korolyov fields, described by Kazakh officials as being in the top 10 deposits in the world.

But output there has been restricted by quality problems which have forced neighbouring Russia to limit the amount of Tengiz oil accepted by its refineries.

The report said the national oil company Kazakhstanmunaigaz offered consumers 4.7 million tonnes of oil in January-April, down 11.5 per cent from the same year-ago period.

It said the decline was especially evident in the main producing region of Mangistau, which accounts for about half of all oil production in Kazakhstan, the second biggest oil producer in the former Soviet Union after Russia.

In Mangistau, only 73.3 per cent of capacity was in use, compared with 80.2 per cent in 1991. "This oil deposit is in a state of declining output," it said.

Difficult conditions were prompting an exodus of workers, with 1,243 leaving the Mangistaumunaigaz company in the first quarter.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY OCTOBER 5, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A wonderful day for all kinds of unexpected surprise matters to arise so that you will better understand where you fit-in with others and how you can express your own special skills to advantage.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You want to extend your activities into new directions but the time is not quite ripe to do so and you need to have more information concerning this new venture.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Obligations from the past need your undivided attention and it would not be good judgment to get into anything new and that you do not understand.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Conditions that have some stress connected with them come to light where a partner is connected but take it in your stride and don't panic.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A day to put your mind solely upon your work load and just how you can best handle it so that you will produce the finest possible result.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You are itching to get off to some good times and yet pursuing them today or tonight would not have the glee that you would like to engage in.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Don't let a home problem get you down but look at it from an impersonal angle and you will be able to attend to it in a really constructive manner.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Consider well the various communications you have to get out and make a special point to be most tactful and considerate in any messages you have.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You want to do something that is unwise where money or other practical conditions are involved but study ways to do at a more propitious time.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You feel a pressure within yourself to gain something you want very much of a personal nature but you would find obstacles in your path.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Consider well the various private anxieties and don't try to get out from under them hastily but take your time, and attend conscientiously.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You want to get out with friends and have a good time but curb your gregarius Aquarius desires and carry through with promises made a good friend.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) This is your moment to make sure that you do handle whatever outside civic or community duties you have in a scrupulously careful manner.

THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen

"He won't say what's wrong, but when we kiss, his lips tap out S.O.S. on my lips!"

Peanuts

Andy Capp

Mutt'n'Jeff

JUMBLE® THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RANOB

THALC

WEFTES

WAHGIE

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

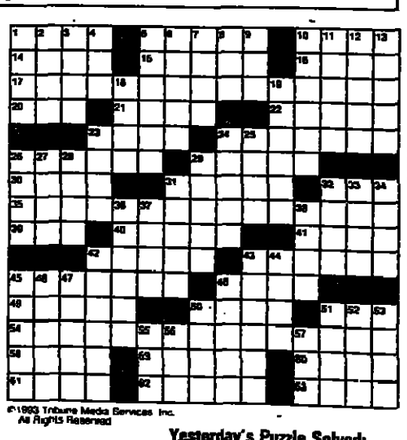
Print answer here: "_____!"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: JETTY FORTY STOLEN BEFORE

Answer: How the tenderfoot felt after his first day on horseback—BETTER OFF

THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jorgensen



ACROSS
1 "Miami —"
5 Name in violins
10 — spumante
14 M.B.A.'s forte: abbr.
15 Candle or nose start
16 Tommy's gun
17 Entres
20 Pindar poem
21 Actress Tyne
22 Deist
23 Coop group
24 Charged
28 Mute
29 Injections
30 — about (approximately)
31 Boutique
32 Car org.
35 Side dish
39 Loser to DDE
40 Praying figure, in art
41 Glance
42 Chic - -
43 Live ones
45 Snake
48 Killer whale
49 Allen or Frome
50 Mast
51 Irritate
54 Dessert
58 Camp item
59 States firmly
60 She: Fr.
61 Nautical term
62 Wipe out a loan
63 Emulate Niobe

DOWN
1 Nix
2 Like summer tea
3 Dunce cap shape
4 Fins
5 Thoroughgoing
6 Gangsters' gals
7 Chinese city
8 Mail —
9 Traveler's stopover
10 Fall flowers
11 Kind of heat or boat
12 Rib
13 Signed
18 First place?
19 Diving duck
23 Roll call answer
24 Song
25 Rent
26 Parlor piece
27 About
28 Ms Lane of the "Daily Planet"
29 Be frugal
31 Sponge
32 In the near future
33 Awestruck
34 Quenes
36 Mask
37 Unwritten test
38 Pelvic bones
42 Biblical spice
43 Strident
44 Pastel color
45 Cyma - - (molding type)
46 Waters
47 Call up
48 "Otello" is one
50 Short distance
51 Unemployed
52 Breathing sound
53 Retain
55 Gibbon
56 Hail, to Horace
57 Pristine

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

S	T	A	R		C	O	L	A		P	L	A	T	A
P	A	R	A		E	R	I	N		I	A	I	R	S
E	R	A	S		L	A	M	E		A	G	N	E	S
C	A	B	C	A	L	L	O	W	A	Y		T	E	N
			A	G	G			S	S	T				
D	E	L	L	A		A	L	A	S		O	P	E	C
U	N	A		I	N	C	O	M	E		P	A	P	A
C	A	B	I	N	E	T	M	I	N	I	S	T	E	R
A	T	O	R		R	O	A	S	T	S		T	E	A
T	E	R	N		U	R	N	S		T	R	Y	S	T
			O	I	L			A	I	E				
J	A	W		C	A	B	B	A	G	E	H	E	A	D
A	L	I	B	I		R	A	I	L		A	R	E	O
P	U	R	E	E		A	S	L	E		S	L	O	G
E	M	E	E	R		N	E	S	T		M	E	N	S

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HOUSING BANK CENTER AMMAN - SHMEISANI
TELEPHONE: 660170 / 663170
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR MONDAY 04/10/1993

COMPANY'S NAME	TRADED VOLUME JD	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
ARAB BANK.	40,875	186.000	186.000	185 500
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	13,970	6.150	6.150	6.280
BANK OF JORDAN	26,508	4.290	4.300	4.300
MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK.	17,826	2.030	2.030	2.030
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	3,445	4.050	4.050	4.060
THE HOUSING BANK	22,619	5.850	5.850	5.800
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	107,554	3.090	3.090	3.150
ARAB JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	9,191	4.100	4.000	4.000
JORDAN ISLAMIC BANK	32,648	3.900	3.900	4.000
BUSINESS BANK	73,150	4.400	4.500	4.500
JORDAN INVESTMENT & FINANCE BANK	16,065	6.350	6.300	6.300
BEIT ELMAL SAVING&INVESTMENT FOR HOUSING	2,503	4.600	4.550	4.550
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	121,721	1.860	1.870	1.860
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK.	86,622	2.660	2.680	2.670
JORDAN INSURANCE	975	3.850	3.900	3.900
GENERAL ARABIA INSURANCE	927	3.500	3.680	3.680
JORDAN FRENCH INSURANCE	51,495	3.530	3.550	3.550
ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	14,586	3.100	3.100	3.130
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	178,772	2.460	2.470	2.450
JORDAN HOTEL & TOURISM	8,250	7.500	7.500	7.500
ARAB INTERNATIONAL HOTELS	47,506	4.900	5.000	5.100
JORDAN TOURISM & SPA COMPLEX	13,201	0.710	0.710	0.720
NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	5,627	4.060	4.100	4.140
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	16,749	1.700	1.710	1.700
JORDAN GULF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	10,657	0.530	0.530	0.530
PETRA ENTRPRISES & EQUIPMENTS LEASING	635	0.960	0.950	0.960
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	864	2.000	2.010	2.010
MACHINARY EQUIP. RENTING & MAINTENANCE	1,630	1.160	1.170	1.130
JORDAN PRESS FOUNDATION / ALRA'I	6,210	20.000	20.500	20.800
JORDAN PRESS & PUBLISHING /AD-DUSTOUR	1,100	11.000	11.000	11.000
UNITED MIDDLE EAST & COMMODORE HOTELS	87,191	2.270	2.280	2.280
ARAB INTER. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION	11,755	2.690	2.700	2.710
ATTANQEEP CONST. MATERIAL MANUFACTURING	1,000	2.050	2.000	2.000
THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	442,164	3.060	3.080	3.100
JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES	3,623	3.520	3.450	3.450
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY	21,301	10.550	10.550	10.600
THE INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL	119,367	7.450	7.500	7.660
THE JORDAN WORSTED MILLS	27,878	11.250	11.420	11.400
ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURING	67,109	8.870	8.850	8.740
JORDAN CERAMIC INDUSTRIES	4,662	7.350	7.400	7.400
JORDAN DAIRY	15,107	2.660	2.700	2.700
THE JORDAN PIPES MANUFACTURING	380	3.790	3.800	3.800
SPINNING & WEAVING	8,078	2.640	2.670	2.710
RAFIA INDUSTRIES	271	2.850	2.710	2.710
JORDAN GLASS INDUSTRIES	3,055	0.430	0.430	0.420
DAR AL DAWA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	16,616	16.600	16.900	16.900
ARAB INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE	14,596	2.610	2.610	2.600
ARAB ALUMINIUM INDUSTRY	42,513	10.000	10.100	10.000
ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	3,196	1.750	1.750	1.730
JORDAN MEDICAL CORPORATION	6,000	0.300	0.300	0.300
NATIONAL STEEL INDUSTRY	76,029	5.550	5.550	5.550
INTERMEDIATE PETRO-CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	33,277	3.670	3.710	3.720
JORDAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES	6,000	6.000	6.000	6.000
JORDAN ROCKWOOL INDUSTRIES	1,397	2.550	2.540	2.540
ALADDIN INDUSTRIES	425	4.320	4.250	4.250
JORDAN INDUSTRIES & MATCH/JIMCO	561	1.050	1.020	1.020
JORDAN PRECAST CONCRETE INDUSTRY	14,752	0.400	0.410	0.400
JORDAN WOOD INDUSTRIES / JWICO	305	6.420	6.100	6.100
NATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING	31,060	8.250	8.300	8.380
JORDAN SULPHO-CHEMICALS	16,561	3.710	3.750	3.700
ARAB CENTER FOR PHARM. & CHEMICALS	15,995	3.450	3.460	3.450
JORDAN KUWAIT CO. FOR AGRI. & FOOD PROD.	936	1.560	1.560	1.560
KAWTHER INVESTMENT	1,375	2.730	2.750	2.750
UNIVERSAL MODERN INDUSTRIES	80,490	5.410	5.420	5.440
GRAND TOTAL	2,108,825			

NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET : 103397
TRADED VOLUME IN THE PARALLEL MARKET : JD 143874

Agency says aluminium scrap not utilised in GCC

DOHA (R) — A regional industrial agency has recommended that Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states increase smelter capacity to recycle aluminium in a region where only five per cent of scrap is reused.

The Gulf Organisation of Industrial Consultancy (GOIC), which advises the governments of the region, said only 4,500 tonnes of scrap aluminium was being reused locally in the six GCC states out of 90,000 tonnes produced.

"About 45 per cent is exported and the rest is just dumped and left out in the open, severely polluting the environment," it said in a study made available to Reuters.

It said smelters in the GCC — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Oman — had a capacity to recycle 7,000 tonnes of aluminium scrap per year but this was inadequate in a region which is expected to produce 115,000 tonnes of aluminium by 1995.

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Egypt issues stock market index

CAIRO (R) — Egypt's stock market has started issuing an official index of share movements to promote investor interest in the exchange, brokers there said Monday.

But they added trade was still slow six months after new regulations were introduced to boost the slumbering exchange because investors were waiting for the government to privatise public sector firms and provide tempting share offers.

Cairo's stock exchange was once the world's sixth largest but fell into discuss when Egypt adopted socialist-style policies in the 1960s and nationalised most of its listed companies.

For two years, reviving the market has been a key aim of economic reforms backed by the World Bank. But progress has been slow and the exchange's annual turnover still totals only about $200 million, a fifth that of neighbouring Jordan.

Leading economic journal Al Ahram Al Iqtisaadi published three sample daily indexes issued by the Capital Markets Authority (CMA) in its weekly Monday edition.

In the indexes, for Monday, Tuesday and Thursday last week, brokers made a total of 106 trades.

Last Monday, the busiest day, the shares of 18 companies were traded at a value of 259,445 Egyptian pounds ($77,215). The Arabic-language index lists each separate deal but does not give aggregates for the volume and value of trading on each day.

The market rose to 122,8991 from 122,8369 or 0.06 per cent on the day but the index did not indicate what its base was.

The CMA has been distributing trading information to private consultants but it is the first time it has itself issued an official index.

More than 600 companies are listed on the exchange but most of them are closed or family firms listed for tax reasons. Only about 24 are actively traded.

"We're all waiting for privatisations and new companies to trade," Mohammad Hamed, chairman of the brokers' association, told Reuters. "The main movements on the market are on rumours that such and such a company will be privatised."

"I have foreign investors coming to see me every week but none of them close a deal," he added.

A dozen brokers, mostly wearing open shirts and safari suits, sat in a circle in the domed exchange Monday while half a dozen elderly punters behind a barrier at the edge of the floor scribbled notes on share movements.

An official wrote down trades by hand and then raised them by dumb waiter to a man chalking the latest prices up on a balcony overlooking the floor. In the middle of the floor, two clerks with personal computers entered the deals for the index.

"I've come here nearly every day since I've retired, more than ten years," said Hussein Ibrahim Saleh, an ex-schools inspector who speculates with his savings.

"You can make money if you use your head," he said.

In the past year one firm, the Suez Cement Company, has dominated trading as investors speculated the government was going to sell off its majority stake. Shares doubled and the firm accounted for about 20 per cent of trading volume.

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United Arab Emirates to draw up long-term development plan

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) will draw up a long-term development plan, with U.N. help, for the first time since oil was discovered in the UAE three decades ago, Al Bayan newspaper has reported.

The emirates' planning ministry has called on the United Nations to help in drafting the plan which will stretch over 10 to 15 years, the paper said.

"The ministry has asked all competent departments in the country to participate in this comprehensive economic and social plan," it said.

It is the first time that the UAE, a federation of seven Gulf emirates, has embarked on such a plan, which will focus on the development of the non-oil sector with the help of crude export earnings.

So far, development projects in the emirates have depended on annual allocations from local and federal budgets. But there have been complaints over the delay in issuing the federal budget was harming development.

The UAE produces 2.16 million barrels per day and has used the oil wealth to expand industries and other sectors. This has steadily boosted the share of the non-oil sector of the gross domestic product (GDP) at the expense of the oil sector, which had long dominated economic activity.

Financial Markets

Jordan Times in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Date 1/10/93	Tokyo Close Date 4/10/93
Sterling Pound	1.5050	1.5025
Deutsche Mark	1.6308	1.6440
Swiss Franc	1.4235	1.4305
French Franc	5.6915	5.6993**
Japanese Yen	106.00	106.00
European Curreny Unit	1.1633	1.1603**

USD Per STG
European Opening at 8:00 a.m. GMT

Eurocurrency Interest Rates Date: 4/10/1993

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.12	3.25	3.25	3.43
Sterling Pound	5.93	5.68	5.75	5.69
Deutsche Mark	6.81	6.62	6.38	5.87
Swiss Franc	4.50	4.43	4.25	4.06
French Franc	7.06	7.00	6.68	6.12
Japanese Yen	2.46	2.46	2.43	2.46
European Currency Unit	7.69	7.68	7.31	6.69

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin Date: 4/10/1993

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6920	0.6940
Sterling Pound	1.0390	1.0442
Deutsche Mark	0.4219	0.4240
Swiss Franc	0.4834	0.4858
French Franc	0.1209	0.1215
Japanese Yen*	0.6526	0.6559
Dutch Guilder	0.3751	0.3770
Swedish Krona	*****	*****
Italian Lira*	0.0432	0.0434
Belgian Franc	*****	*****

Per 100

Other Currencies Date:

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8130	1.8430
Lebanese Lira*	0.039550	0.040825
Saudi Riyal	0.1845	0.1860
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2550	2.3200
Qatari Riyal	0.1875	0.1892
Egyptian Pound	0.2050	0.2220
Omani Riyal	1.7640	1.8210
UAE Dirham	0.1875	0.1892
Greek Drachma*	0.2895	0.3245
Cypriot Pound	1.3465	1.3645

Per 100

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Monday.

U.S. $1.00 costs	1.3360/70	Canadian dollar
	1.6350/60	Deutschemarks
	1.8370/80	Dutch guilders
	1.4252/62	Swiss francs
	35.27/32	Belgian francs
	5.7000/00	French francs
	1596.0/8.0	Italian lire
	105.75/85	Japanese yen
	8.1270/47	Swedish crowns
	7.1370/70	Norwegian crowns
	6.6150/35	Danish crowns
One sterling	$1.5025/35	
One ounce of gold	$355.75/356.25	

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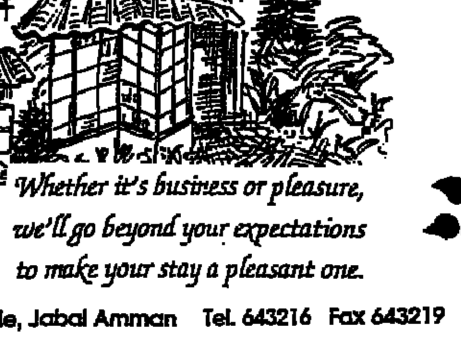

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S. Korea agrees to border talks with North

SEOUL (R) — South Korea has agreed to a proposal from the north for border talks on Tuesday, breaking a months-long deadlock over Pyongyang's suspected nuclear arms programme.

South Korean Prime Minister Hwang In-Sung a sent a telephone message to his Northern counterpart Kang Song-San Monday saying the South would agree to talks at the border hamlet of Panmunjom on the exchange of special envoys.

"I hope the scheduled working-level contact will smoothly work out arrangements for an exchange of special envoys so that it can take place at an early date," Mr. Hwang said in the message, responding to a northern offer made Saturday.

"This should provide a major impetus to the solution of the nuclear issue, the resumption of the suspended South-North high-level talks and the resolution of other issues pending between the South and the North," Mr. Hwang said.

He said Seoul would send three delegates to Panmunjom, led by Deputy Unification Minister Song Young-Dae.

The talks will be the first official inter-Korean contact since South Korean President Kim Young-Sam was sworn into office in February.

"The proposed border meeting is expected to come off because the North, in its offer for talks, attached no preconditions, unlike previous offers," a Unification Ministry official said.

"But it is still doubtful that the two sides will make substantial progress in the contact," he added.

Seoul is said to be hopeful that the exchange of special envoys, if it materialises, would pave the way for reconvening a joint North-South committee to implement a nuclear accord signed in late 1991, which bans atomic weapons on the Korean peninsula and gives grounds for mutual nuclear inspections.

The two Koreas, still technically at war 40 years after the Korean War ended in armistice, held a series of talks at prime ministerial level until December 1991.

The talks were relatively successful, resulting in a non-aggression and reconciliation pact as well as the nuclear accord.

But dialogue between the two Koreas came to a halt in January over North Korea's refusal to allow inspection of two nuclear plants near Yongbyon, 95 kilometres north of Pyongyang, where the West suspects atomic weapons are being developed.

The North had also demanded that Seoul cancel its annual military exercises, codenamed Team Spirit, with the United States before contacts could resume.

The two Koreas have since haggled over the agenda and timing for resuming talks. None has succeeded as neither side would give way on preconditions attached to resuming talks.

The South insists on putting nuclear inspections at the top of the agenda. The North insists on discussing the exchange of special envoys before tackling the nuclear issue.

Last Friday, 72 nations meeting in Vienna voted for an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) resolution calling on Pyongyang to cooperate immediately with the nuclear agency and open up suspect North Korean atomic sites for inspection.

South Korea said the resolution indicated a global consensus that the situation cannot be permitted to drag no much longer.

Though the resolution fell short of referring North Korea to the U.N. Security Council for a second time, IAEA Director-General Hans Blix said he was keeping U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali informed.

Meanwhile, Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa voiced deep concern Monday over North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons programme and said Japan would work closely with other countries to resolve the issue.

"On North Korean issues, we are really concerned about alleged development of missiles and nuclear weapons," Mr. Hosokawa told parliament.

Bosnia crisis deepens with Serb hardline, Muslim strife

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — Fresh strife between Bosnia's Muslims and a tougher line from Serbs added more hurdles Monday for negotiators seeking peace in former Yugoslavia.

The Bosnian Serb parliament withdrew concessions made as part of the latest Geneva peace plan over the weekend and on Monday published hardline statements about United Nations troops trying to maintain their mandate.

The government of Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic has been in crisis since it effectively rejected the peace plan last week. The plan would divide Bosnia into three ethnic states.

European Community foreign ministers were scheduled to discuss the crisis at their regular meeting Monday while the U.N. Security Council gave itself until Tuesday to sort out an expired mandate for 23,900 uniformed U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) troops in Bosnia, Croatia and Macedonia.

Rebel Muslims in the breakaway Bosnian Bihac enclave defiantly declared a new ruling party Sunday night, according to Croatian radio, although troops loyal to the government in Sarajevo killed one person in an attack on a radio station controlled by the mutineers.

The pocket's self-declared president, Fikret Abdic, claimed he had signed up 15,000 members of the new party and said he was prepared to die for his independence cause.

Serbs in the self-declared autonomous Krajina region in Croatia repeated refusals to U.N. requests that they disarm and return their territory to Croatian government control.

Likewise, Bosnian Serbs said they would form a greater Serbia in former Yugoslavia if the Security Council insisted on amending the language of the UNPROFOR mandate.

Croatian President Franjo Tudjman has held up the agreement by threatening to demand the removal of U.N. peacekeepers from Croatia unless UNPROFOR takes stronger action to restore his government's authority in Krajina.

The Security Council therefore recommended adding language that would warn Serb-led rump Yugoslavia of "serious consequences" if it continued to support the Krajina Serbs.

Asked about the U.N. proposal, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic warned that Serbs would react by immediately forming a unified Serb state, with or without signed peace accords in Croatia and Bosnia.

The proposal also angered Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, who threatened to withdraw from Bosnian peace negotiations, according to Russian diplomats. Negotiators consider Mr. Milosevic a key link to his fellow Serbs in Croatia and Bosnia.

Bosnian Serbs issued statements saying they had rejected proposals by the U.N. to deploy observers around Doboj, a frontline town in northern Bosnia, and one to open an air corridor from Zagreb over Tuzla.

A UNPROFOR spokesman in Belgrade said there were continual negotiations with the Bosnian Serbs but said the U.N. would not comment on the details. The statement from the Serbs seemed to be aimed at establishing a hard line on the U.N.'s role in Bosnia.

Sporadic fighting continued across much of Bosnia, although central Bosnia was reported unusually quiet by both U.N. sources and local media.

Both Serb and Muslim media reported heavy fighting around Doboj and south around Maglaj and other disputed towns.

Battles were reported around the southwestern town of Mostar although the centre of town experienced only small arms fire. Croat and Muslim officers signed a ceasefire for the ancient Ottoman town Saturday.

Meanwhile, international mediators said Monday they were looking at a new global approach to the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia after the failure of their latest peace plan for Bosnia-Herzegovina.

European Community envoy Lord Owen said the mediators may try to put negotiations on the brutal 18-month-old Bosnian war in the context of overall Serb-Croat relations and tensions elsewhere in the Balkans.

Lord Owen made his comments before briefing EC foreign ministers here on the Sarajevo parliament's rejection last week of plans for the ethnic division of Bosnia.

A homeless man sits in the rain flanked by UNHCR tarpaulins in the main street of Sarajevo (AFP photo)

Sihanouk: Khmer Rouge to be advisors

PHNOM PENH (R) — Cambodia's King Norodom Sihanouk held out the possibility Monday that the radical Khmer Rouge, which has refused to surrender its arms, would be given an advisory role in the coalition government.

Speaking as he left Phnom Penh for China for an operation on a benign tumour, the 70-year-old monarch said the Khmer Rouge and the government would hold talks.

"They will become advisors probably — there will be discussions between the royal government and Khmer Rouge in November. You will know the result in November," King Sihanouk said.

Cambodia's new government is led by King Sihanouk's eldest son, Prince Norodom Ranariddh and the former Communist premier of the Hanoi-installed government, Hun Sen.

King Sihanouk met Khmer Rouge nominal leader Khieu Samphan last Friday to discuss the proposed round-table talks. The king promised to act as a neutral bridge between the Khmer Rouge and the government. It is not known if the subject of Khmer Rouge fighting was discussed.

The Khmer Rouge, responsible for the deaths of one million Cambodians during its 1975-79 rule, has so far been refused a role in the government although it has requested an "advisory position."

The faction boycotted U.N.-organised elections in May and has launched sporadic attacks against the government army.

The rebel forces have been seriously weakened by defections and the government has threatened to "wipe out" the faction which still controls the valuable gem-mining town of Pailin in western Cambodia.

Prospects for the November meeting achieving a breakthrough appear bleak.

Second Prime Minister Hun Sen, who fought the Khmer Rouge in the 1980s, gave the talks a "one per cent" chance of success.

"I may come back in November," Khieu Samphan said.

Opposition from Western nations expected to fund Cambodia's reconstruction after 13 years of civil war has been a major factor in keeping the extremist guerrilla faction out of any formal government role.

King Sihanouk returned to Cambodia for only 12 days following medical tests in Peking where he has a residence. Doctors said earlier he was not suffering from prostate cancer and that a tumour near his prostate was benign. King Sihanouk did not say when he would return to Cambodia.

Shocked Indian premier offers help to build new life to quake survivors

LATUR, India (AFP) — Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao Monday visited the ruins of quake-devastated village here, consoling survivors and promising to help them rebuild their shattered lives.

The 72-year-old premier looked shocked and moved by the magnitude of the destruction as he moved from one razed village to another, addressing groups of dazed survivors living under makeshift shelters.

Men and women jostled and pushed to get close to Mr. Rao and tell him of their woes. Harried security personnel formed a ring around him during the nearly 90 minutes he spent in this region in Maharashtra state.

Mr. Rao later told reporters here that Thursday's quake, which left at least 30,000 people dead and thousands injured, was the worst "in living memory" and pledged to build new quake-proof homes for the estimated 130,000 homeless.

"We will rebuild entire villages," he said, before leaving for the neighbouring state of Karnataka which was also hit by the earthquake. "I have been told that bodies are still being extricated."

Mr. Rao, who arrived here by a helicopter, drove first to the worst-hit Khillari town, which accounted for almost half the deaths.

"You have gone through an enormous tragedy," a grim-faced prime minister told a few hundred survivors huddled inside a tin-roof shelter. "We will spare no efforts to help you. We will resettle all of you."

"The entire country is with you," he said, as officials repeatedly called for silence. "We will design quake-proof houses for you. ...we will pass through this crisis."

Mr. Rao patted some on the back and held others' hands.

He stopped at the entrance to neighbouring Talni village to talk to a young man who lost his mother when their mud-and-stone house crashed down on them.

He consoled another man who lost his wife, child and brother.

At the Talni's relief camp, he met a soldier who returned from Bombay to find that his entire family had perished.

A visibly moved Mr. Rao urged them: "Please have courage."

At all his stops, Mr. Rao asked the victims of their needs.

At Khillari, survivors, mostly farming families, demanded that the government provide them with seeds. At other places, people asked for new houses.

The prime minister, who also went to a hospital here where hundreds of victims are being treated, handed over a cheque for 500 million rupees ($16.6 million) to Maharashtra Chief Minister Sharad Pawar for rehabilitation.

He also announced that 50,000 rupees ($1,660) would be paid as compensation to each "bereaved person," and that money constraints would not be allowed to hamper the massive relief work.

Mr. Rao praised the thousands of soldiers engaged in pulling out bodies from the mounds of rubble, and expressed fears that the quake had changed the seismological pattern of India.

"We had generally believed this not to be an area prone to quakes," he said. "The belief is shaken. The quake changes the entire seismological profile of the country."

"But people's morale is high," he said. "They are not down and out. They are looking towards the future. This is the most heartening thing."

"Let us hope a new life lies ahead for them."

Mr. Rao also thanked foreign governments and organisations for their prompt offers of help.

A 19-month-old girl was plucked alive from beneath the rubble of her home Monday, 104 hours after the earthquake turned her village into a graveyard, army rescuers said.

Priyanka Wagle was found underneath her overturned cot buried in rubble more than one metre deep, said Brigadier Pritam Singh, whose unit found the baby in the village of Killari.

2 killed in Pakistan poll violence

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — The Pakistan army fanned out into 450 sensitive polling stations throughout the country Monday after two party workers were killed in poll violence.

The two, campaigners for a candidate of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP), were killed and another PPP worker injured late Sunday when an unidentified man opened fire at a rally in Khushab district in Punjab province.

The deaths brought to ten the number killed in violence in the runnup to the Oct. 6 polls, but the candidate, Malik Bashir Awan, was unhurt in the attack, the party said.

The incident was one of three reported last Sunday. In southern Sindh province unidentified gunmen opened fire on the car of an independent candidate, who escaped without injury.

The third incident, involving a PPP candidate, took place in North Frontier Province (NWFP) on the Afghan border. Party reports from the area said a youth with a Kalashnikov rifle was arrested after he tried to attack Aftab Ahmad Sherpao, the PPP's provincial party chief before a rally in Charasadda.

A leading supporter of Ms. Bhutto's arch political rival, former Premier Nawaz Sharif, Ghulam Haider Wyne, 60, was killed in an ambush in NWFP last week.

Some 100,000 army troops, entrusted by the interim government of Moeen Qureshi to supervise the Oct. 6 polls and elections for provincial assemblies three days later, are expected to complete deployment by Monday night.

Meanwhile, some 110 international observers have arrived in Pakistan to monitor Wednesday's crucial general elections being held under army supervision, officials said Monday.

The Washington-based National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) has sent a 35-member team, headed by Canadian MP Maurice Foster, they said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Georgian troops retake Khoni

MOSCOW (AFP) — Georgian government troops have retaken the town of Khoni in central Georgia in a counter-attack against rebel forces hostile to Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze, the Georgian Defence Ministry said Monday. The ministry, cited by Interfax News Agency, said Khoni was wrested from rebels Sunday. The town, which is about 25 kilometres from the key railroad junction of Samtredia, had been overrun late Saturday by rebels loyal to former Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia after they seized the Black Sea port of Poti. The Georgian Defence Ministry said government forces pushed rebel troops back west of Khoni across the Tskhenistskali River. By overtaking Khoni, rebels had put themselves within striking distance of the town of Kutaisi, which Shevardnadze has re-inforced as the frontline of his resistance to the rebellion. Rebel forces, numbering around 2,000, hold a series of towns in western Georgia including their stronghold Zugdidi.

Aliyev wins Azeri elections

MOSCOW (R) — Former Soviet politburo member and secret policeman Haydar Aliyev appeared to have seized victory in Azerbaijan's presidential poll, winning 90 per cent of the vote, Interfax News Agency said Monday. "A representative of the Central Electoral Commission who preferred to remain anonymous said that out of the 97 per cent of the population who took part, 90 per cent voted for Aliyev," the agency said. ITAR-TASS News Agency said only that turnout was 96 per cent in Monday's poll. Official results will be released later this week. Mr. Aliyev, who headed the KGB security police in the former Soviet republic in the 1960s and was first secretary of its Communist Party in the 1970s, had faced two virtually unknown candidates in the poll. The election was a way to confirm his effective leadership of the Transcaucasian state, which stripped former President Abulfez Elcibey of his powers in June and confirmed in an August referendum that it had no confidence in Mr. Elcibey.

Hani murder suspects plead not guilty

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) — Three white right-wingers accused of assassinating black leader Chris Hani pleaded not guilty Monday as their trial resumed before the Supreme Court here after a three-month recess. Alleged trigger-man Janusz Waluz, 38, Conservative Party (CP) ex-member of parliament Clive Derby-Lewis, 57, and his wife Gaye, 54, a former Catholic nun, were charged with murder, conspiracy to commit murder and unlawful possession of a firearm and ammunition. Security was tight as about 200 African National Congress (ANC) followers demonstrated outside the courthouse, where they had strung up a mannikin to a lamppost with a placard around its neck reading: "just hang them." Michael Buchanan, who lives diagonally opposite Hani's house in the suburb of Boksburg, told the morning court session he grabbed his gun and rushed out when he heard shots on April 10. He said he saw a red car driving past and "focused carefully on the driver." Buchanan said he was taken to a lineup by police the following day and asked to identify the man he had seen from among 10 people. "I couldn't recognise anyone, so I asked them to turn to show their left profile," he said. "And the person who drove past my house stood out like a sore thumb." Buchanan pointed from the dock to Waluz.

Malawi's Banda has brain surgery

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Malawi's President Kamuzu Banda had brain surgery in a Johannesburg hospital and is in satisfactory condition, a hospital spokesman said Monday. "At present his condition is satisfactory and... does not appear to be life threatening at this stage," Dr. Andre Nel, general manager of the Garden City Clinic, said. Mr. Banda, who diplomats believe to be in his mid-90s, was admitted to the clinic Saturday.

5 explosions rock North London

LONDON (R) — Five suspected IRA bombs damaged shops and offices in North London at dawn Monday causing traffic chaos.

Police said the anti-terrorist unit was on the scene but there had been no reports of casualties.

The first explosion was logged at 0635 am (0535 GMT) close to the area where the Irish Republican Army (IRA), fighting to oust Britain from Northern Ireland, exploded three bombs at the weekend injuring five people.

"We've had reports of five blasts from the archway and the Tottenham Lane areas and Highgate (North London) and the anti-terrorist squad is on the scene," a police spokeswoman said at Scotland Yard Police Headquarters.

"It's too early to confirm that they are bombs."

British Transport Police said Highgate underground station was closed because of an explosion. The blast was well ahead of London's busy rush-hour and the cause was not yet known.

Police said one explosion had been reported close to high street shops in archway and there was heavy traffic congestion as roads had been closed.

North London resident Mark Garland said the blasts were of the same magnitude as the weekend bombs. "I heard Saturday's bombs here and I was woken up by the same loud bangs," he said. "There were two and then another two, making four."

British police released an artist's impression Sunday of a man they want to question about the weekend IRA bombs.

Senior Conservatives rally around Major

BLACKPOOL, England (R) — Senior Conservatives Monday rallied around British Prime Minister John Major and told members of his fractious party to forget thoughts of a leadership challenge.

Party Chairman Norman Fowler conceded that the last 12 months had been very difficult for the Conservatives but tried to dampen speculation that Mr. Major could be replaced.

"I don't think anyone wants to see a leadership election. I think that has been made clear... I don't think he is on probation," Mr. Fowler told BBC Radio on the eve of the party's annual conference.

After a bruising year of policy U-turns and party mutinies over Europe, Mr. Major's popularity has plummeted and the next big grassroots rebellion could be over plans to put value added tax on home heating fuel.

In a carefully orchestrated campaign leading up to Tuesday's conference opening, Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and Employment Secretary David Hunt joined in the chorus of support for Mr. Major.

They also backed a call by his ousted predecessor Margaret Thatcher for a change to the party rules to prevent incumbent prime ministers being ejected from office by their own party — as she was in 1990.

Mrs. Thatcher has been a vociferous critic of Mr. Major over European union and now over the plans for consumer fuel taxes to help pay for a burgeoning £50 billion ($75 billion) budget deficit.

After turning their backs on her 11-year legacy of uninterrupted power, party grandees are now seeking to rehabilitate her and hopefully silence criticism from the woman who warned last week "granny will always be there to advise."

Opinion polls Monday gave conflicting signals to Mr. Major.

A poll in the tabloid Sun newspaper showed 65 per cent of voters wanted Mr. Major to resign now. A narrow majority of 51 per cent said they wished Mrs. Thatcher was still running the country.

But a Daily Telegraph poll showed 51 per cent in favour of Mr. Major staying on though, paradoxically, he and the government are the most unpopular in the history of Gallup polling.

Ever since Mrs. Thatcher narrowly avoided assassination by the Irish Republican Army in the seaside resort of Brighton in 1984, Conservative conferences have been turned into fortresses.

The northern resort of Blackpool was no exception after a spate of IRA bombs in London and Belfast signalled the guerrilla group's determination to maintain the fight against Britain despite ceasefire overtures in recent secret talks.

Hundreds of extra police were drafted in to ring the conference centre and hotel headquarters, manhole covers were checked by sniffer dogs and marksmen prepared to take up rooftop lookout positions.

The Blue Kite gets grand prix

TOKYO (AFP) — The Blue Kite was awarded the Tokyo Grand Prix on the final day of the Tokyo International Film Festival Sunday, in spite of the Chinese delegation's protest against the screening of the film. "I never met the delegation. I'm just glad to be with other prize winners at the ceremony," said Tian Zhuangzhuang, the director of the joint China-Hong Kong production, at a press conference. Zhang Xingyuan, director of external affairs at the Film Bureau of the Chinese Radio, Film and Television Ministry, flew back to Peking at the head of the delegation in protest. He was quoted as saying that the Peking Film Studio owned the copyright to the movie and had not authorised its entry in the festival. The Blue Kite, portraying life during the Cultural Revolution, also gained the Tokyo Governor's Prize as a Japanese entry, while its protagonist, Lu Liping, shared Best Actress Prize with Lolita Davidovich in Younger And Younger (USA/Germany). The movie is based on my childhood days, so I'm glad that many people came to see it. I feel very honoured to win the Grand Prix, because there are so many prominent movies," said Tian. "I learned film-directing after 1976. Many young people studied cinema, music and other arts in those days and I think I was probably lucky, because it was the time after the liberation of China." Other winners were: Searching for Bobby Fischer directed by Steven Zaillian of the United States (Special Jury Award), American Taylor Hackford Blood In Blood Out (Best Director) and Japan's Masahiro Motoki (Best Actor).

Italy designers love the long and the short

MILAN, Italy (R) — Whether they were thigh-high or long and languorous, hemlines ruled the catwalks on the first day of Milan's spring-summer fashion shows Sunday. Italy's ready-to-wear designers, plagued by the eternal dilemma of whether to remain loyal to the long or sympathetic to the short, made a stylish compromise this season with collections which will let women choose their length. Max Mara's models were either wrapped from neck to toe in silk and linen or scantily clad in next spring's tiny minis. The evening collection was long and languorous with see-through silk trousers topped with long knit sweaters or sleek black jackets with just one button under the breasts. Other models swept down the catwalk in long, loose black dresses cut in the front and back with high slits. Daywear was decidedly different. Models burst on the catwalk in tiny white dresses with swingy pleats or low-cut backs. One model bounced down the runway in a white turtleneck knit that barely reached mid-thigh while others walked, wide-eyed and shy, in small sand-coloured knit dresses with scooped-out backs. Designer Nicola Trussardi took hemlines to new heights. He decked models in very short pleated minis and jackets which dropped just past the skirts' hemlines. His leather mini-dress with criss-cross straps was a star. But Trussardi's long dresses were exaggerated. Sleeves hung past models' wrists and knit dresses dragged behind them. Other models, in earth-toned dresses, looked as if they were swimming in the fabric. Only their heads and fingertips seemed to show.

Madonna in Israel

TEL AVIV (AFP) — American pop star Madonna arrived Sunday in Israel where she is scheduled to give a single concert Tuesday at Tel Aviv's Riverside Hayarkon Park, state television said. The singer-actress was whisked away from Ben Gurion airport in a black limousine which picked her up on the tarmac as police and body guards kept dozens of fans and photographers at bay. During her stay in Israel Madonna is also expected to visit Christian holy sites in Jerusalem.

China's 1st safari park opens

HONG KONG (AFP) — China's first safari park, built at a cost of 100 million yuan ($18 million), has opened in the special economic zone of Shenzhen, its owners Shenzhen Tourism Corp. said Wednesday. The safari, covering 1.2 million square metres (12.9 million square feet), comprises more than 3,000 animals from 150 species, including rare breeds, it said.

هكذا من الأصل

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rallying Fiorio wins 2nd Cyprus Rally

NICOSIA (R) — Italian Alessandro Fiorio drove his Lancia Delta Integrale to victory in the three-day Cyprus International Rally Sunday, his second consecutive win in the event. Only 34 of the 90 starters from 11 countries finished the 973-km race.

Lewis looking ahead — to retirement

LONDON (R) — Lennox Lewis hinted Monday he may only fight more times before retiring from boxing. "I look at myself going on for about a year and a half more. Boxing's a sport I'm not going to stay in for a long time," Lewis said in an interview with BBC Radio. Lewis, 28, beat fellow Briton Frank Bruno to retain the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight title in Cardiff in the early hours of Saturday — but few experts were impressed with the manner of his seven-round victory. If Lewis did quit in 18 months time it would mean he was likely to have only three more fights. His next assignment will be against World Boxing Organisation (WBO) champion Tommy Morrison in Las Vegas on March 5. The fight is conditional on American Morrison beating Michael Bent in Tulsa, Oklahoma, October 29. If Lewis fights Morrison and beats him, a unification fight against American Riddick Bowe, the World Boxing Association (WBA) and International Boxing Federation (IBF) champion, could go ahead towards the end of next year. Assuming Lewis won that — and if he was serious about quitting in 18 months — the newly-crowned champion of the world might make just one defence before calling it a day.

Referee sues Papin

LYON (AFP) — Referee Patrick Anton, under fire after Marseille's controversial match against Metz had to be abandoned, is to sue French and AC Milan star Jean-Pierre Papin for libel. Papin, a former Marseille player, was quoted by sports newspaper L'Equipe as saying Anton, who stopped the September 25th match with three minutes to go after a pitch invasion, had been "dishonest." He said: "If I choose this word, it's to remain polite." Papin added: "I don't take anything back of what I said, but I don't want to add anything either." Anton, who has received a series of death threats following the match during which he also sent off three players, two from Marseille, reacted on Monday: "In his position as captain of France, Jean-Pierre Papin should be reserved in what he says. "It's easy to make such comments when he is abroad and does not risk any sanction."

China blasts U.S. press

BEIJING (AFP) — China's official sports newspaper attacked "Yankee" reporters at the U.S. magazine, Sports Illustrated Monday for doubting China's record-breaking women runners. The China Sports Daily, in an article titled "Yankees, open your eyes and look," accused Sports Illustrated and runner's world of referring to 3,000 and 10,000m world record holder Wang Junxia in "derogatory terms." It said the biggest error was U.S. reporting on a traditional herbal elixir used by the women's team, which Sports Illustrated reportedly referred to as an "aphrodisiac for men." "We want to tell Western reporters: Open your eyes and see China clearly! When China masters scientific, standard and modern technology, the 'eastern dragon' will take off," the paper said. "If China were to select good seedlings from its 1.1 billion people, they would by far exceed the U.S. population." Wang Junxia, during a span of six days last month, destroyed the 10,000m and 3,000m records by 42 seconds and 16 seconds respectively. She also broke the 1,500m world record, but finished second behind teammate Qu Yunxia.

Tracy wins final race of Indy-car season

MONTEREY (AFP) — Indy-car champion Nigel Mansell had an unfortunate end to a spectacular year Sundy, finishing 25th in the season finale won by Canadian Paul Tracy. Tracy, in his first full year of Indy-car racing, fended off a challenge from Penske teammate Emerson Fittipaldi of Brazil to win the Makita 300, despite a problem with loose seatbelts that left him sliding around his cookpit on the turns of Laguna Seca Raceway. The 24-year-old Canadian claimed his fifth victory of the year, matching the total of Mansell, who clinched the title two weeks ago in Nazareth, Pennsylvania. The win, in dominant fashion, put Tracy third in the final standings, behind Mansell and Fittipaldi.

New Zealand Endeavour heads the pack

SOUTHAMPTON (AFP) — Grant Dalton's New Zealand Endeavour and Japanese yacht Tokio, skippered by fellow Kiwi Chris Dickson, went their own way Monday as they continued their dogfight at the head of the Whitbread Round the World Yacht Race. Both followed their own track to the west of the race fleet, tracked by the Spanish entrant Galicia 93 Pescanova at 0755 GMT. Dehydration was the key enemy as crews worked hard to maximise their speed with a series of sail trimming and changing manoeuvres in increasing heat.

French Eric-Saint Martin, riding Urban Sea crosses the finish line to win the 71st Prix De L'arc De Triomphe (AFP photo)

Japan Cup on agenda of globe-trotting Arc winner

PARIS (R) — Battling filly Urban Sea could be on her travels again after repulsing the big shots to win Sunday's Prix De L'arc De Triomphe.

Trainer Jean Lesbordes said: "She is a great traveller and has already run in Canada, America, Hong Kong and Britain. The Japan Cup may now be on for her."

Urban Sea's 37-1 victory in the hands of Eric Saint-Martin came as a surprise to many, although the filly had won her last two races in France, one a Group Three event.

Both were over 2,000 metres as opposed to the 2,400 metres of the Arc but Lesbordes, recording by far the biggest success of his career, said: "When she won last time out at Deauville in August I said she would go straight to the Arc without a preparatory race.

"I also said she would stay 2,400 metres without any problem. She showed that when she was a good third in last year's Prix Vermeille (over 2,400 metres) when she was some way short of Maturity."

Urban Sea's neck victory over English-trained outsider White Muzzle was a family affair.

Jockey Saint-Martin, 28, winning the Arc on his first ride in the race, thrilled the longchamp faithful who still remember the glorious days of his father Yves-Saint Martin, four times successful in Europe's greatest race.

Yves was there Sunday, following his son to the winner's enclosure. It was all very emotional.

Up in the grandstand, 20-year-old Clement Lesbordes, who helps his father with the training, was in tears as his favourite horse stormed home through the heavy ground.

Lesbordes junior rides Urban Sea in her training work and has accompanied the filly on her trips round the world.

"I lost my voice. We'd landed an incredible bet. Tonight I just keep a promise and get my hair cut," said Lesbordes who is noted for his long blond locks.

Urban Sea is the undoubted star of the Lesbordes stable at Chantilly. Clement Lesbordes paid tribute: "She's not very beautiful and sometimes suffers from arthritis but she has a heart as big as anything."

Winning owner David Tsui, 44, will testify to that.

Businessman Tsui, who divides his time between Paris and Hong Kong, moved into the sport only two years ago at the suggestion of his wife.

Urban Sea was among three horses he bought at the Deauville sales. The filly cost about $45,000. Sunday's success was worth over $750,000.

Nowadays, most of Lesbordes's horse belong to Tsui, who could become a major figure on the turf. Certainly Sunday the big names were left with plenty to ponder.

Sheikh Mohammad's pair of Opera House and Intrepidity did well, finishing a respectable third and fourth.

But Khalid Abdullah's well-fancied duo of Armiger and Wemyss bight were only 15th and 21st, the favourite Hernando, owned by Stavros Niarchos, finished 16th and the Aga Khan's highly regarded Shemaka was last of the 23 runners.

English disappointment at failing in the Arc for the fourth year in succession was partly tempered by the stunning six-length success of the filly Lochsong in the Prix De L'abbaye, a race for Europe's top sprinters.

Lochsong and Jockey Frankie Dettori blazed away to dazzling effect, covering the one kilometre at an average speed of 60,3 kph, a remarkable performance in the conditions.

JBF International Basket[illegible]
Jordan [illegible]

By Aleen Bannayan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan's national basketball team Monday played their best match of the International Basketball Tournament defeating Iraq's Al Talaba 96-90 on the 6th day of the competition organised by the Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF).

The two undefeated teams of the tournament, Russia's CSKA Moscow and Bulgaria's Himik, were to clash for the title in Monday's late match. The two other participating teams Lebanon's Al Hikmeh and Iraq's Al Naft were given a rest.

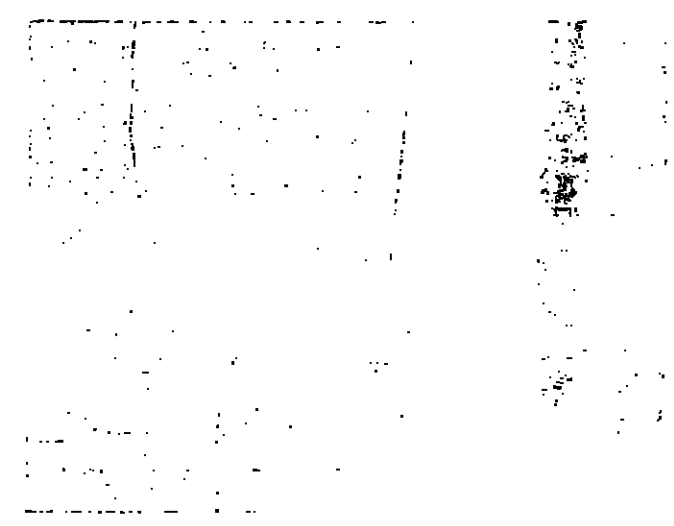
The Iraqi team, who had won their last two matches 78-77 and 89-83 over Al Hikmeh and Al Naft respectively, were stunned when the Jordanian team took the lead at first and then built a commanding lead of over 17 poins. However, Al Talaba, led by their undisputed star Thamer Mustafa, did not surrender to defeat, and towards the end of the game narrowed the wide gap to three points with 44 seconds remaining.

The Kingdom's team secured defensive rebounding and by the concerted efforts of Walid Badran, Mohammad Al Shamali and Marwan Al Saeedi teaming up with Samir Murqus and Marwan Ma'touq they successfully limited the visiting team's scoring and led 8-2 after two three-pointers by Ma'touq.

Mustafa's individual efforts enabled the Iraqi team to catch up and lead 9-8.

Murqus, Bardran, Muntaser Abultayyeb, Yousef Zaghloul and Shamali displayed what teamwork could achieve as they led 26-18 in the 10th minute.

A three-pointer by Murqus and another three points by Shamali took their lead to



Jordan's national team

33-22 with Mustafa scoring for Al Talaba.

Jordan kept their lead at 38-28 after another three-pointer [illegible]. However, the Iraqi [illegible] advantage of a couple [illegible] turnovers [illegible] loose balls to lessen the gap at 35-35.

Jordan's promising Shamali scored [illegible] consecutive points to give his team a ten point lead at 45-35. Jordan ended the first half leading 47-[illegible].

As the Iraqi team became agitated by their inability to catch up and convert the score to their advantage, Jordan's Saeedi, Murqus and Hilal [illegible] kept their team leading 56-[illegible] in the [illegible] minute of the second half.

A three-pointer by Badran kept the Kingdom's lead at 65-49 but Mustafa carried the [illegible] with three [illegible]

[illegible]

Standings after [illegible] first match

Team	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Himik	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Talaba	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
CSKA	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Jordan	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hikmeh	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Naft	4	—	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4

10-man Real avoid another loss

PARIS (AFP) — Real Madrid avoided their fourth consecutive defeat despite being reduced to ten men for most of the second half of a goalless Spanish capital derby with Atletico.

Police lined the streets in anticipation of crowd trouble in reaction to Real's disastrous start to the season but all the fireworks were on the pitch.

Five players were booked and Real's international midfielder Rafael Martin Vasquez was given his marching orders two minutes after the break.

Atletico took control of the match then but it was real, languishing just above the relegation zone with only one win in their first four matches, who went closest winning — Fernando Hierro and Jerez Alfonso both forcing good saves from Garrido Diego late in the match.

Valecnia's 1-1 draw away to Lerida allowed Athletic Bilbao, 2-1 winners over Real Zaragoza, to take over at the top of the table but Barcelona's first-half performance against Osasuna Pamplona will have left few doubting that they are headed for a fourth consecutive title.

The Catalans, irresistible against Dynamo Kiev in the European Cup last week, fielded four strikers as they overran Pamplona in the first 45 minutes before running out 3-2 winners.

Two goals from Brazilian striker Romario put Johan Cruyff's side in control at the break and although they slackened off in the second period were never in any danger.

Merino pulled one back for the home side in the 65th minute but Hristo Stoichkov, whose appearances have been limited by the arrival of Romario, scored his first goal of the season two minutes from time to make the points secure.

Poland's Jocek Ziober scored right on the final whistle for Pamplona but the scoreline flattered the home side.

In Germany, Bayern Munich bared their teeth by crushing on-form Hamburg 4-0 in front of 63,000 supporters in the Olympic Stadium.

Thomas Helmer opened the scoring just before half-time and as Hamburg pushed forward for the equaliser, Markus Schupp, Alfonso Valencia and Mehhet Scholl exploited the gaps left at the back to add second half goals.

Hamburg, who were lying second two weeks ago, have now slipped to fifth, just ahead of Bayern.

Leaders Eintracht Frankfurt, deprived of top scorer Anthony Yeboah who had a knee operation Thursday, extended their lead to three points by beating 1991-92 champions VFB Stuttgart 2-0.

Graf to undergo ankle [illegible]

LEIPZIG (AFP) — World number one Steffi Graf will undergo surgery on her foot, casting doubt on whether she will play in the end-of-season women's tour championships in New York in November.

"I cracked a bone in my foot on Friday. I hope it will only be a minor operation," Graf said after beating Jana Novotna 6-2, 6-0 to win the Leipzig Tournament for the fourth consecutive year.

There were few signs of discomfort from the injury as Graf overwhelmed Novotna in a re-run of of the Wimbledon final — where the Czech squandered a 4-1 lead in the final set.

"That was as good tennis as I can play," Graf said afterwards. "I did not give her a chance to get into the match."

At Wimbledon, Novotna was able to unsettle the German by charging the net but every time she came off the baseline Sunday she was left helpless by thundering Graf forehand passes.

Graf is now unbeaten since May 2 and the final of the Hamburg tournament where her great rival, Monica Seles, was stabbed.

Deprived of tennis competition with Seles ruled out until next year, Graf announced last week that she planned to cutback her schedule to spend more time on her business interests and with her boyfriend.

Becker withdraws: [illegible] Pernfors advances in Sydney

Boris Becker has withdrawn from his doubles commitments at the Australian Indoor Tennis Championships, but has assured organisers he will continue in the singles draw of the one million dollar tournament.

The triple Wimbledon champion informed tournament promoter Graham Lovett Monday that he had a stomach complaint [illegible] not be fit for his doubles [illegible].

Meanwhile, Jim Courier [illegible] from his Malaysian [illegible] tournament to [illegible]

The world No. 2 [illegible] qualifier Alexander [illegible] in his opening Sydney [illegible] 6-2, 7-5 [illegible]

[illegible] Swiss [illegible] Switzerland [illegible] late replacement [illegible] seed Stefan Edberg [illegible] 6-2 for [illegible]

The [illegible] seed, [illegible] into the tournament after [illegible] Boris Becker [illegible] in a powerful [illegible] in the last [illegible] 6-4 6-3 6-2 victory [illegible] final.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH
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FLOWN THE COOP

Neither vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K 10 7 3 2
♡ K 8 5 3
◇ A 4
♣ 7 5

WEST
♠ J 4
♡ Q 10
◇ Q J 6 2
♣ J 10 8 3 2

EAST
♠ Q 8 6 5
♡ J 9 7 6 2
◇ Void
♣ Q 9 6 4

SOUTH
♠ A 9
♡ A 4
◇ K 10 9 8 7 5 3
♣ A K

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ◇	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
3 ◇	Pass	4 ◇	Pass
6 ◇	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♣

Be careful of contracts that appear too easy. Fingers have a tendency to fly to the cards, and one spent in haste can make you repent when you see the damage you have caused.

South had a difficult hand to bid—powerful in terms of high cards, but with a broken seven-card suit. The jump was a happy compromise even though it risked missing a game on many hands with which North might have passed the jump.

Realizing South was unlikely to have a four-card heart suit and that A x was excellent support for a suit that had been jump rebid, North raised and South went straight to slam.

West led the jack of clubs and declarer was in seventh heaven. Wasting no time, South won the king of clubs and led a trump to the ace. East's failure to follow was the contract's death knell.

With no side-suit loser, declarer should have taken the time to realize that the only threat to the slam lay in a 4-0 trump split. Having uncovered the danger, any player with a rudimentary knowledge of safety plays would have brought home the slam.

At trick two declarer should have led the seven of diamonds and run it. As the cards lie, that would have won and West would have been held to one trump trick. Had West shown out on the first trump, declarer would rise with the ace and return a trump, and East would have been limited to one trump trick. And should the seven lose to an honor in the East hand, that would have meant trumps were no worse than 3-1, and the remaining trumps could be drawn with the A K.

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[illegible]
FOR [illegible]

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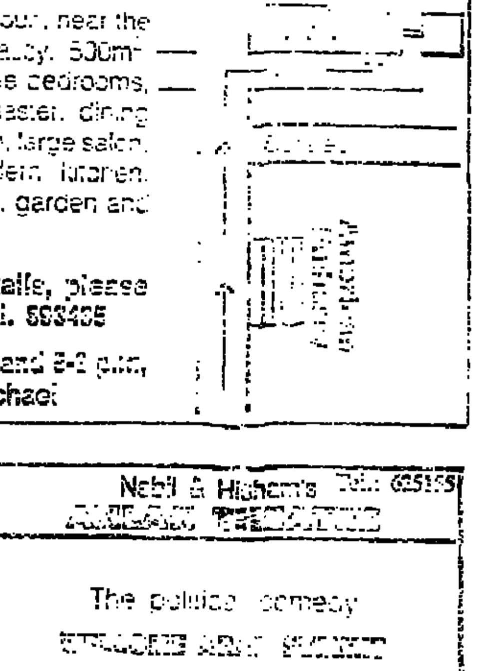

For more details, please contact tel. 883405

from 9-12 a.m. and 3-[illegible] p.m. Mr. Michael

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Excellent residential area.

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[illegible]
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Kuwaiti officers interrogated in Iran

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — Two Kuwaiti officers, who were among 19 people seized by the Iranian coastguard Friday, are being interrogated in Iran on charges of spying, the Kuwait Times reported Monday. The newspaper, citing "reliable sources close to the Interior Ministry," said that the unamed officers were accused of "spying in Iranian territorial waters." An Iranian diplomat told the Kuwait Times: "It is only natural that we will be very concerned and anything related to this should take some time going through routine checks." He said that the detained Kuwaitis would be released once Iranian investigators were satisfied that no spying was involved, the daily added. On Sunday a Kuwaiti official reported that the Iranian authorities had seized five Kuwaiti fishing boats and seized 19 people who were on board outside Kuwaiti territorial waters.

Daily regrets absence of Iran-Iraq unity

TEHRAN (AFP) — The semi-official Tehran Times Monday deplored the absence of unity between Iran and Iraq against Western "imperialism," but said the planned visit of an Iranian official to Baghdad offered a real chance for improving ties. "Iraq has been claiming in recent years that its principal objective is to fight imperialism and the United States," said the English-language newspaper. "If there is any truth in that claim, then Iraq should have joined forces with Iran which has been on the forefront of the struggle." The paper expressed hope that a scheduled visit to Baghdad by Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Zarif would help solve differences between the two countries and open "a new era in relations." The decision for Mr. Zarif's visit was taken in a meeting Friday between Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and his Iraqi counterpart Mohammad Said Al Sahaf on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly. The paper called on Iraq to take a series of steps ahead of Mr. Zarif's visit to prove it is serious about reestablishing ties with Iran. "As a good start, Iraq could open its holy sites to Iranian pilgrims," it said, referring to Iraq's major Shiite shrines in the cities of Karbala and Najaf.

Islamic Jihad chief visits Iran

TEHRAN (AFP) — The secretary general of Palestinian group Islamic Jihad, Fathi Shiqaqi, is holding talks here with Iranian officials on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)-Israeli accord, the official news agency IRNA said Monday. He met Sunday with the vice-chairman of the Iranian parliament's foreign policy subcommittee, Mohammad Javad Larijani and is expected to hold discussions with other top officials. Mr. Shiqaqi blasted PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat for his "most disgraceful" move in agreeing to a deal for limited Palestinian autonomy. But he vowed Muslim groups in the occupied territories would continue intifada with determination and "target the Zionists" regardless of any accords. Mr. Larijani, who is also a member of Iran's National Security Council, said Iran attached "great importance to Palestinian-related" issues.

58,000 immigrants arrive in Israel

TEL AVIV (AFP) — More than 58,000 immigrants settled in Israel during the first nine months of the year, the Jewish Agency said Monday. All but 11,000 emigrated from the former Soviet Union said the para-government agency, which looks after immigration. Jewish Agency chairman Simcha Dinitz said in a statement that the dramatic events in Moscow were causing "concern.." But about 7,000 Russian Jews were still expected to leave for Israel during October and the next flight was due to land in Tel Aviv on Tuesday. "There is no panic among Moscovite Jews," he said. Some 250,000 Jews live in Moscow and 600,000 in the Russian Federation, according to the agency, which is trying to attract them to Israel. About 80,000 immigrants, the majority from the ex-Soviet empire, are expected to settle in the country this year, slightly up on the 76,500 who arrived last year. A total of 534,000 Jews — 457,000 from the ex-Soviet Union — have immigrated to Israel since 1989 when the Kremlin opened the floodgates.

Jews, Christian Zionists march through Jerusalem

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — Thousands of Israelis and Christian Zionists from around the world paraded through Jerusalem Monday to mark the feast of Tabernacles. More than 4,000 Christians, including from Japan, South Korea and the Philippines, dressed in their national costumes and sang religious songs as they marched through the heart of Jerusalem to the old city. The feast lasts seven days and commemorates the "sukkot" or Tabernacles in which the children of Israel dwelt in the wilderness after the exodus from Egypt. The annual parade is organised by the International Christian Embassy, which interprets the Bible as requiring support for Jews and Israel with Jerusalem as capital. The embassy, set up in 1980, sees itself as representing a "nation" of Christian Zionists.

Kuwait City revives council after 7-year break

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) — Voters on Monday went to the polls to revive the Kuwait City Council which was dissolved seven years ago by the emir. Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah dissolved the last council in 1986, at the same time as he scrapped parliament which was becoming increasingly critical of his government. Some 82,000 Kuwaitis have to choose 10 representatives from among 53 candidates for the 16-seat council. The other six will be appointed by the government.

Moroccan party rejets leader's resignation

RABAT (R) — Morocco's main socialist opposition party said Monday it refused to accept the resignation of its leader Abdul Rahman Yousoufi. Mr. Yousoufi handed in his resignation as leader of the Socialist Union of People's Forces (USEP) in protest against what he said was government interference in the legislative elections in June and September. The politburo rejected his resignation last week and the central committee followed suit at a meeting in Rabat on Sunday, party deputy secrtary Mohammad Yazghri told Reuters. The USFP and its trade union ally the Confederation democratique du Travail won 56 seats out of 333 in the new chamber of representatives, the highest score of any party. No party won a clear majority, making it practically impossible for the opposition to get into power unless it joins a coalition with centrists.

Bangladeshis deploy on Iraq-Kuwait border

KUWAITY CITY (AFP) — A mechanised infantry battalion from Bangladesh will be deployed along the Iraq-Kuwait border to maintain security, the spokesman of the U.N. Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM) said Monday. Abdul Latif Kabbaj said the 750-strong armed battalion was expected to arrive in December ahead of their deployment. "Their mission will be mainly to restore calm should serious incidents break out on the border," he told AFP.

George Joulwan appointed NATO commander

WASHINGTON (AFP) — President Bill Clinton appointed General George Joulwan Monday to be North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) supreme commander, replacing General John Shalishkashvili. Gen. Joulwan, 53, is currently commander-in-chief of the U.S. Southern Command in Panama, a position he has held since November 1990. The 11th supreme allied commander since NATO was formed in 1949, Gen. Joulwan was approved for the post by the alliance's member nations, the Pentagon said. The post has always been held by an American. His predecessor, Gen. Shalishkashvili, has been nominated as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

KING MEETS DEFENCE COLLEGE TEAM : His Majesty King Hussein Monday received a delegation from the British Royal Defence College. King Hussein discussed with them the Middle East peace process and Jordan's role towards attaining a permanent and just peace in the region. The King emphasised the importance of stability and security and ensuring respect for human rights and freedoms. He said Jordan was keen on maintaining and enhancing the process of democracy and in contributing to the U.N. peace-keeping operations (Petra photo)

Allies meet Ghali on Libya, reaffirm their firm stand

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Britain, France and the United States reiterated Monday that they wanted a written guarantee to hand over the Lockerbie suspects before abandoning tighter sanctions against Libya.

Representatives of the three countries met with U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali here Monday and made it clear their position had not changed following the latest moves from Libya, diplomatic sources said.

The three have said they are willing to meet with the Libyan side, but only to discuss the mechanics of a handover and on the understanding that it would take place within two weeks of that meeting, diplomats here said.

France has said that nothing short of a written pledge to hand the men over will be enough to lift the threat of new sanctions.

"There is a chance that there may be a meeting this (Monday) afternoon or perhaps tomorrow" between Dr. Ghali and Libyan Foreign Minister Omar Al Muntasser, the secretary general's spokesman said.

He would brief the Libyan minister on what he had been told by the three Western nations and get his reaction.

"The secretary general is continuing his efforts to achieve a speedy implementation of the security council resolution" of April last year which called for the handing over of the suspects, Dr. Ghali's spokesman Joe Sills said.

The defence team for two Libyans, accused of blowing up a U.S. airliner over Scotland in 1988, said it will meet in Tripoli to decide whether to advise the men to stand trial in Scotland.

The British lawyer for Abdel Baset Ali Mohammad Al Megrahi and Al Amin Khalifa Fhimah said in a statement the meeting would probably take place on Friday.

Stephen Mitchell said the statement was issued with the authority of Libyan lawyer Ibrahim Legwell, who is heading the defence team.

"Dr. Legwell has called a meeting of the defence team and its specialist advisers in Tripoli at the earliest opportunity," the statement said, adding that the meeting would probably take place on Friday in the Libyan capital.

"The defence team will form a concluded opinion which will be discussed with Megrahi and Fhimah," Mr. Mitchell said. "It is expected that Megrahi and Fhimah will thereupon decide whether or not to go to Scotland."

The United States and Britain issued arrest warrants in November 1991 for the arrest of the two Libyans on charges of planting the bomb that blew up Pan Am flight 103 over the Scottish village of Lockerbie, killing 270 people.

Meanwhile Libya has asked its oil customers to pay for crude in currencies other than dollars, apparently in anticipation of an international freeze on its assets abroad, according to a report published Monday.

The Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said the policy was prompted by Libyan fears that it would lose control of dollar payments moving within the international payment system if the United States, Britain and France imposed sanctions.

The official Libyan News Agency JANA said Monday the Tripoli government was "actively encouraging" the Lockerbie suspects "to agree to be tried in any country, but it cannot force them to give themselves up because that contravenes the principles of human rights and international conventions."

But time is running out for Libya, and while awaiting a response the three Western countries are going ahead with the process of bringing the new sanctions resolution to a vote, diplomats said.

That will involve discussions with various other Security Council members on the resolution, followed by formal council consultations on the matter which is likely to take at least a week.

Yeltsin routs foes in armed showdown

(Continued from page 1)

and the hardline Officers' Union, composed of servicemen opposed to Mr. Yeltsin's reform policies.

Interfax said the order had been made under the terms of a state of emergency declared by Mr. Yeltsin Sunday night after proof that these parties had "violated rights and exceeded their authorities" and taken part in unrest.

Dozens of wounded and dead were blocked in areas located inside or near the parliament, a spokesman for municipal services said.

Throughout the day, gun battles and artillery shots from dozens of T-72 tanks resounded from the area surrounding the parliament while thousands of onlookers gathered across the Moskova River and on a nearby bridge.

In an address broadcast on television, Mr. Yeltsin blamed the violence on armed "communist revanchists" who attacked a television broadcast centre and a municipal building on Sunday, killing about 20 people and wounding 100 more.

"This armed communist riot will be crushed as quickly as possible," the Russian leader vowed, stating that those "who brandished the red Soviet flag made red blood flow in all of Russia."

"Their calculations proved incorrect and the people will condemn these criminals. They will have no pardon ... because they raised their hand against Moscow, against sacred things," he said.

Elite crack army troops began infiltrating the opposition-held parliament a few hours after armoured troops transporters and tanks were deployed near the building and along the main streets leading up to the White House.

The Kremlin issued an ultimatum to rebels to surrender by 2:00 p.m. (1100 GMT) or face an assault by rapid-reaction "Alpha" brigades who had already stormed and seized four floors of the 19-storey building.

In one the most tense moments of the day, White House defenders opened fire from inside parliament as Defence Minister General Pavel Grachev arrived to the scene to negotiate the surrender.

Tanks immediately responded and shot several rounds into the parliament building, sending black smoke billowing from the windows and sparking fires that engulfed several floors.

Shooting continued in the area surrounding the White House following the surrender of the deputies and the arrest of parliamentary leaders, including Mr. Rutskoi, who was proclaimed "president" in the hours after Mr. Yeltsin's decree.

Mr. Khasbulatov and Mr. Rutskoi told a reporter from the newspaper Corriere Della sera that they had asked Western ambassadors to guarantee their security but there was no reaction from government leaders.

Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin had said earlier he would accept only complete and unconditional surrender.

From Washington to Albania — once the most hardline of communist countries — world leaders spoke out and denounced the Russian hardliners who defended the burning parliament building.

The European Community said Mr. Yeltsin had been left with no choice but to use force to end the crisis.

The community brought forward the date of a summit with Russia to show its strong support for Mr. Yeltsin, Belgian Foreign Minister Willy Claes said.

Albanian President Sali Berisha said in a press release: "There is no doubt that President Yeltsin's reaction against yesterday's coup d'etat in Moscow is a fully legal act which aims at reestablishing order and calm."

As Mr. Yeltsin's planned visit to Japan this month looked unlikely, Tokyo renewed support for Mr. Yeltsin but feared the violence could affect Russia's reforms.

Meanwhile, seven leaders of the Commonwealth of Independent States pledged their support for Mr. Yeltsin and blamed "anti-democratic forces" for the violence.

Suicide bomb attack in W. Bank

(Continued from page 1)

opposed to peace are trying to do everything to sabotage the peace process," he said.

Israeli security sources identified the Palestinian driver as Kamal Bani Odeh of Tamoun village, a wanted member of Hamas.

The attack occurred at 7:30 (05:30 GMT) as the bus made a stop outside the headquarters of the Israeli military government north of occupied Jerusalem, just outside Ramallah.

"The Arab driver of the car bomb was killed in the blast," military officials said, adding: "The army closed the area and began an investigation."

Hospitals said 30 people were treated. Only three were more than lightly injured. The army earlier said 23 passengers, including soldiers, were hurt in the explosion.

Mr. Rabin said on Sunday that Israeli security forces were targeting militants bent on continuing attacks. He announced that 19 Hamas fighters had been captured in the occupied West Bank in the past few months.

Under the peace deal with the PLO, Israel will begin withdrawing its army from the Gaza Strip and Jericho starting on Dec. 13 and give Palestinians limited self-rule.

On Sunday, an Israeli woman waiting for a bus was wounded in her leg by shots fired from a passing car near Bethlehem in the West Bank, the army said.

The army announced Sunday it had smashed three Hamas cells on the West Bank and arrested 19, two days after a massive sweep through the Gaza strip left two Hamas members dead and another 16 under arrest.

A wanted fighter of the Hawks, an armed wing of the main PLO group Fateh, was shot in the legs and arrested Monday in Rafah, sources said.

Sharaa: No peace without Syrian role

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) — Syria said here Monday that there could be no peace in the Middle East without its participation and argued that all states must be satisifed for any peace agreement to last.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa also attacked the United States in a speech to the General Assembly, accusing it of using the United Nations to further its own political ends.

He reaffirmed Damascus's position that lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved unless Israel makes peace with all its Arab neighbours, rather than pursuing agreements with each individually.

"We thipk that the most serious threats the peace process faces are the Israeli attempts to give the impression as if peace has been achieved in the region" after signing an autonomy agreement with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) last month, he said.

"Syria is, in fact, more serious and keen in its efforts to achieve peace than those who deviated from Arab coordination, and through their separate signing have opened the doors of the region to all kinds of options," he said.

Mr. Sharaa, who was due to travel to Washington Tuesday, argued that Israeli and Arab interests had to be considered when reaching a peace agreement. "The peace that may receive a broad and continued support is the peace that is honourable for us as well as for the others," he said.

Syria is demanding that Israel return the Golan Heights, which its seized in the 1967 war, in exchange for peace.

The Syrian foreign minister accused the United States, although not by name, of using the international organisation for its own purposes.

"It is not reasonable... to have the mechanisms of the United Nations manipulated sometimes to intervene in the internal affairs of countries under one pretext or another," he said.

Rabin appeals to Lebanese and Syrian Druze for peace

JULIS (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, speaking at the funeral of Israel's top Druze spiritual leader Monday, appealed publicly to mourners from Lebanon and Syria to take home a message of peace.

Tens of thousands of people, including Israeli leaders and generals, attended the funderal of Sheikh Amin Tarif, who died on Saturday, aged 95, at the northern Israeli village of Julis.

An Israeli spokesman said on Sunday at least 1,300 Druze Arabs from Lebanon and Syria would be allowed to attend even though Israel is formally at war with both countries.

"This sad event is an opportunity to appeal again to the members of the community that arrived yesterday and today from Syria and Lebanon, to tell them to return to their homes and be messengers of peace," Mr. Rabin told mourners.

Israel has been in peace talks with Lebanon and Syria for two years but failed to make progress. It has in the past let Syrian Druze visit relatives on the Golan Heights, which it seized from Syria in 1967.

A succession fight is expected between Druze backers and detractors of Sheikh Tarif's 30-year-old grandson Muwafak Tarif. The elder Tarif's leadership dates back to 1928 — two decades before the creation of Israel.

The Druze religion is a secretive faith that broke from mainstream Islam early in the 11th century. Israel's Druze community, which has good relations with the government, numbers just under 70,000 people.

Druze serve in Israel's army and chief Lieutenant-General Ehud Barak attended the ceremony.

Mr. Rabin led the mourners at the funeral.

Mr. Rabin said Mr. Tarif, who died overnight Saturday-Sunday, was a "man of peace." He urged the Druze from Lebanon and Syria to act as "go-betweens for peace" in the Middle East.

However, several hundred Druze from Syria failed to complete the formalities to cross the U.N.-manned ceasefire line at Quneitra in time for the funeral, police said.

"For dozens of years he led his people with wisdom, understanding and strength of purpose earning tremendous respect not only among his community but also among all the other communities of the Middle East," President Ezer Weizman wrote in a letter of condolence to the family.

Mr. Weizman paid his respects at Julis Sunday.

While the Israeli Druze serve in the army, another 15,000 Druze live on the Golan Heights and remain loyal to Syria. Nearly 300 Israeli Druze have died serving Israel.

The 31-year-old grandson of Taref, who won the Israel prize in 1990, the country's highest cultural honour, is expected to inherit the role of spiritual chief.

The Druze are concentrated in the Galilee region in Israel and spread across Lebanon and Syria.

Israelis expect World Bank team next week

The Jerusalem Post

A WORLD Bank mission is to arrive in (occupied) Jerusalem next week seeking ways to implement its plans for investment in the territories, while the PLO's top economic planner, Ahmad Qurei'a, denied that he will arrive to present the PLO's own economic ideas.

The World Bank team of 25 or more officials is scheduled to arrive on October 11 for three weeks, Palestinian officials said.

PLO economists have prepared a 1,600 page economic plan which clashes in several respects with the World Bank's own 600 page, six-volume report on the development of the Palestinian economy.

The PLO plan was prepared in July by the PLO's department of Economic Affairs and Planning, which is headed by Qurei'a, better known as Abu Alaa.

Abu Alaa, a central figure in the secret negotiations between Israel and the PLO, was the focus of news reports Sunday that he would arrive in Jerusalem this month to attend an economic conference organised by the business daily Globes.

Qurei'a, in Tunis, told Reuters, "the report is baseless and my visit to Jerusalem is dependent on the Israeli army withdrawing from the occupied territories."

The harsh denial was not surprising. Earlier, Palestinian economist Samir Huleileh, who met Qurei'a in Brussels eight days ago, told the Jerusalem Post that Qurei'a told him he would not be coming.

One reason, Huleileh said, was that "a leading PLO official would not dare precede PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to Jerusalem."

Hassan Abu Libdeh, the deputy head of the technical committees who is closely involved with economic planning, said he would be "willing to bet" that Qurei'a would not come before Arafat.

The question of diplomatic priorities extends to naming the technical commitees, which will start negotiating with Israel from mid-October on the modalities of transferring authority in Gaza and Jericho.

Huleileh said that Arafat would not name the Palestinian negotiators until the PLO Central Council, which is scheduled to meet on October 10, confirms its support for the Israel-PLO accord.

On Friday, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin criticised the PLO leadership for its delay in naming its negotiating team.

The PLO economic plan, called "a programme for development of the Palestinian economy for the years 1994-2000," is to be the basis of much of the technical negotiations.

A 100-page English summary calls for a "rehabilitation period" of two years in which money from abroad should be spent by public Palestinian governing bodies on education, health, social services and charitable organisations, which were severely effected by the reduction in PLO funds during the past two years.

The World Bank recommends that education and health should be left to private initiative

COLUMN 10

Vatican to beatify Romero

SAN SALVADOR (AFP) — The Vatican has given the go-ahead for the beatification of slain archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero, San Salvador's auxiliary bishop announced Sunday. Auxiliary Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chavez said in his Sunday homily that the Roman Catholic Church on Sept. 22 had approved initiating the process. The announcement marks the first step toward beatification — a milestone on the road to sainthood for Arch. Romero, who was a harsh critic of social injustice and military repression during the government's 12-year civil war with leftist rebels, which ended in 1992. Arch. Romero was assassinated with a gunshot to the heart as he said mass in downtown San Salvador on March 24, 1980.

1.65 million signatures collected for gun control

TOKYO (AFP) — A citizens' group led by the parents of a Japanese student who was shot to death in the United States has collected 1.65 million signatures to press demands for U.S. gun control, group officials said Monday. The signatures will be handed to President Bill Clinton to mark the death of Yoshihiro Hattori, who was killed when he went to the wrong home in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, while looking for a party on Oct. 18 last year. "We believe the incident created opportunities to review society in the United States," Mieko Hattori, Yoshihiro's mother, told reporters. "We appreciate the support of so many people," she said. "We would like to tell the president of the United States of our wish." The 16-year-old Japanese boy was on his way to a Halloween costume party but accidentally went to the house of Rodney Peairs, who said he feared for his life when Hattori approached him and ignored his command to "freeze." Hattori, who did not understand the expression, was shot in the throat and killed. In July, Hattori's parents sued the 31-year-old American, who was found innocent of manslaughter in May.

New York to restore Times Square's luster

NEW YORK (AFP) — New York City wants to bring back Times Square's old glitz and glamour, fixing up deteriorating blocks of homes that house sex shops and fast food stands. Located at the intersection of 42nd Street and Broadway, Times Square is a hub of New York nightlife, lit up with neon signs for theatres, movie houses and night clubs clamouring for attention. It is also where New Yorkers gather to celebrate on New Year's Eve and on election night. But the eastern edge of the square, with its mix of threatres and boarded-up buildings, some housing squatters, is becoming positively dangerous. "All that blight, all that obscenity is going to be gone. We're going to re-create the old Times Square," said New York Governor Mario Cuomo in presenting plans for renovation. The city, with financial help from New York State, announced that it would spent $35 million to buy up property between 42nd and 43rd Streets, and complete a three-year-old plan to buy $185 million worth of property in the area. An earlier plan that called for the construction of four enormous skyscrapers was abandoned as economically non-viable since there were huge amounts of office space vacant at the time.

Titanic's finder to scour Black Sea for ancient wrecks

AUCKLAND (AFP) — The oceanographer who found the wrecks of the Titanic and the German battleship Bismarck predicted Monday he would discover well-preserved ancient ships on his next expedition to explore the Black Sea. U.S. citizen Robert Ballard said on Radio Zealand that few ancient wooden ships had survived on the sea bottom because of the ravages of the ship's worm, which eats timbers away. But unique conditions in the Black Sea had led him to believe there were good chances of uncovering a major find in its waters.